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Canadian colours

Gooderham celebrated Canada Day in style with a bright showing of fireworks on July 1. For more pictures of Canada Day across the county, see inside this edition. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Outdoors Plus' new owners settling in well

THOMAS SMITH

Journalist

Longtime customers of Outdoors Plus may have noticed slight changes at their favourite sporting goods store. Many pictures of successful hunting and fishing adventures decorating the walls have been removed. New owners Kristy Kilbourne and Chandler Zedic want to use that space to put their own memories on the walls.

"We want to build new memories with our customers," said Kilbourne.

Walking through the store, a customer giggles with excitement while purchasing minnows to go fishing. This past weekend was the first time he got to put his boat into the water.

While Zedic and Kilbourne grew up in the Toronto area, they are no strangers to Haliburton County. With Zedic's father having a cottage in Haliburton, the couple has been visiting the area for many years.

"We would come up to the cottage up here and we would shop at Outdoors Plus and downtown," said Zedic. "When he passed away, he left us the cottage here so we have been trying to shift things to be up here more."

"This has always been our second home," he said.

After 28 years of owning and operating Outdoors Plus, Karen and Norm Perrott decided to transition the business out of their hands. Initially, the young couple inquired out of curiosity. After connecting with the Perrotts, they decided that owning Outdoors Plus would suit them perfectly.

Outdoors Plus is the couple's first venture into a brick and mortar retail store. Zedic has a military background and Kilbourne runs her own urban planning consulting business.

While Norm is enjoying his retirement, Karen, Craig, and Colt remain working at the store. As exports in the local lakes and hunting areas, the trio have been crucial in teaching Zedic and Kilbourne how to run things, keep stock, and provide their knowledge of outdoor lifestyles.

Their three sons also plan on working at the store. As passionate anglers, the couple say their boys are excited to learn the ins and outs of the store and gain experience in their first jobs.

A full family affair, Zedic's uncle and cousin have also been stepping in to help at the store as well.

"Norm and Karen have been super supportive in helping us and making sure we are set up for success," said Zedic. "This is such an amazing opportunity and we are thrilled to be here."

Kilbourne says that the couple has met more people than they ever expected to. Both longtime customers and newcomers to the county have popped in to welcome the couple to the county and put names to their faces.

"So far it is going great, we are learning new things every day and we are meeting new people everyday," said Zedic.

This past Canada Day, the couple continued the tradition of getting involved with the Kids Fishing Derby in Minden, a long-standing tradition. The couple gave out 150 $10 gift certificates to the first 150 youth to weigh-in their fish.

Zedic and Kilbourne say that there have been very few bumps in the road getting the swing of things.

"We have not been completely alone for anything that does come up," said Kilbourne.

Outdoors Plus was open throughout

see NEW on page 17

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Nelson moves on from HHHS

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

It's a bittersweet time in the local healthcare world, as the CAO of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), Veronica Nelson, moves on to a new opportunity.

In a press release shared on June 23, HHHS Board Chair Irene Odell communicated with media partners that Nelson had accepted a role at Ross Memorial Hospital as President and CEO.

"It will be difficult to fill Veronica's shoes as she was a very impactful leader," said Odell, "but we are committed to finding a new leader to carry on with the positive momentum, building on the foundation that she has put in place supported by her leadership team."

Nelson started with HHHS in 2023, following the closure of the Minden Hills Emergency Room. While conflict levels were high between the health organization and the community, Nelson stepped in with a mission of allowing community members to share their voices.

She coordinated and facilitated a number of Town Hall sessions, in an effort to allow locals and visitors alike to share their concerns. Looking back, Nelson shared that these sessions were a stand-out memory for her time at HHHS. "From the first Town Hall where I first met with our community, to listen to them, to begin to understand how important healthcare is to Highlanders," recalled Nelson, "to two years later, the last Future of Care Forum on June 5, 2025 where we shared how the master plans have been evolving and the vision for long-term care and acute care."

Nelson hopes that these engagement opportunities have provided an open and transparent relationship between HHHS and the community. "I know the Board is very proud of this as am I and I believe you can expect this to continue on into the future," she said.

Another key accomplishment? Getting mammography and CT scanning set up in-house.

"This has made a huge impact to the community and how we care for our patients," said Nelson. "Having this technology has been a game changer for our physicians and how they deliver care."

Nelson recalls the view of seeing the CT scanner rolling into the local buildings. "Just knowing how much work was done to make this a reality," she recalled. "Having presented to so many in our community and having received such an overwhelming response through donations has been etched in my heart – this community has come together when most needed."

So what's next for Nelson? Odell stepped in to answer some of the burning community questions. Nelson will be stepping over to Ross in September, and will be sticking with HHHS over the summer months. Currently, HHHS does not have another candidate in mind, but they are reviewing all qualified applications.

There are murmurings on social media with concerns around Ross and HHHS consolidating services, but Odell has addressed that. "Veronica joining Ross will not change our path at HHHS and we are so excited to see the deeper connection and synergy that will come from this continued partnership," said the Board member for HHHS. "We have always explored all opportunities to partner to optimize healthcare for our community."

Odell also noted that moving ahead with the master plan that HHHS has diligently implemented will continue, with staff being provided ample training and resources to follow-through with the initiative.

While it seems like a promising opportunity on the horizon, Nelson shared that there are definite key components she will miss about HHHS. "My staff," she mused, "and our volunteers and the community who has welcomed and trusted me to create a vision for healthcare in the Highlands."

"Since joining HHHS, Veronica has been a transformational leader, guiding the organization through a period of tremendous growth and renewal," said Odell. "She began the essential work of master planning for both the hospital and long term care homes, forged new community partnerships, and laid a foundation of trust and transparency that has become a hallmark of our culture. Veronica's deep commitment to patient care and community health led to the recruitment of new physicians and the formation of a strong and collaborative leadership team."

Ohana Music Festival pulls the plug

THOMAS SMITH

Journalist

Ohana Music Festival - the three day 80s themed music festival - has been cancelled.

Bands that were slated to perform included Mudmen, Streethear, Lee Aaron, Haywire, Toronto the Legacy and The Box.

"I (had) contracts signed for all the artists we announced," said Johnny Matsiak, organizer for Ohana Music Festival.

Despite plans for the biggest summer event of the year, the organizers announced the cancellation on June 24 to their Facebook page.

"It is with great sadness and with heavy hearts, that we regrettably announce that this Summer's "Ohana Music Festival" is cancelled," writes their post. "Due to circumstances and several months of delays way beyond our control, our team feels that we cannot present the festival the way we envisioned in this now shorter period of time."

"We would like to thank our team, the artists, the volunteers and vendors for their support during this difficult time."

The exact nature of the cancellation is unclear, but Matsiak says that he has been discussing the option of smaller events this year that would be based in Minden, such as the arena.

Matsiak says that tickets for the festival never went on sale and as a result, they will not have to provide refunds to any ticket purchasers. With contracts signed for the artists, Matsiak says that they are out a substantial amount of money with the cancellation.

While the fate of the music festival remains unknown, the organizers have been adamant to interested music lovers that they will be back and the festival will be taking place in Minden next year.

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Musical medleys

Quote the Raven, consisting of Kirsten Rodden-Clarke and Jordan Coaker, perform at The Music Room Haliburton on Saturday. The haunting folk duo from Newfoundland played several songs including a couple from their newest album *Map the Dark*. /ADAM FRISK staff

Highlands Bass Club takes to the lake for twilight event

ADAM FRISK

Journalist

The Haliburton Highlands Bass Club hit the lakes on July 2 for an evening twilight bass competition.

The club hosted its first of two family-friendly events for the month of July where the 11 boats headed out from the town docks for about four hours of fishing on five lakes.

"We're here for an evening twilight event, a bass tournament," Dan McMullen, club executive, said. "So, it's your five biggest bass and we do a live release so the fish come in all healthy and we do a water weigh-in and then release them back into the lake.

"It's really a family event for everyone, kids, parents and whomever,"said McMullen.

The club, created in 2011, hosts several tournaments throughout the fishing season. A second twilight event is set to take place on July 15.

"It's a strong tradition of bass fishing up here and bringing locals and cottagers together to enjoy the outdoors," McMullen said.

McMullen said these types of events bring out anywhere from eight to 12 boats and about 35 to 40 participants. Tournament entry fees are $65 with cash prizes from the top three anglers.

The Haliburton Highlands Bass Club hosted its first of two family-friendly events for the month on July 2. /submitted

Biting bugs driving people bonkers this year

ADAM FRISK

Journalist

No, you're not imagining it, the bugs are in fact bad for this time of the year.

"They're pretty bad this year, " cottager Adam Albanese said. "The deer flies have been atrocious. I got bit on my foot and it swelled out pretty good, also on my face I had a few puffy bites, it wasn't good."

And the Bowmanville resident is not alone.

"The deer flies are definitely biting, they're out on the lakes and whatnot," Haliburton resident Mike Edwards said. "They seem early this year, usually we get deer flies in the dead of summer but here we are, it's July 2."

The biting insect season is in full swing now in early July with most of the biting bugs of summer having emerged together.

"This time of year we are getting the whole gamut of biting insects," nature writer and outdoor guide Rick Whitteker explained in a July 2 telephone interview. "Everything is out, even the black flies are still lingering, mosquitoes are sort of full on and then the horse fly and deer fly seem to have come a bit early."

"We usually associate them with midsummer but they moved in in late June," Whitteker said.

The rains we have had in the Haliburton area have kept the mosquitoes healthy and are able to dry out during the long dry spells and relying on temporary water pools to lay their eggs, Whitteker, who is also HHLT's Partners in Conservation Co-ordinator, explained.

"Most people's experience with biting insects can be very localized. Sometimes you can go out and not have any issues with these types of flies and then other days they're horrible," Whitteker said. "With deer fly and horse fly in particular they breed in long grassy areas, they need lots of moisture to breed but they seem to thrive on wet bodies.

"It always seems like when you go for a swim that's when they are particularly attracted to you. They're persistent and their bite is painful," Whitteker said.

Other than hoping for a sunny and windy day to help keep the biting bugs at bay, choosing the proper clothing is likely the best defence against deer and horse flies.

"Light coloured, long pants and sleeves are your best defence," Whitteker said. "They don't have a piercing proboscis like a mosquito so they can't go in through your clothing, it's tougher for them to bite through clothing."

Whitteker said that for the most part, insect repellent is largely ineffective against deer flies so long, loose-fitting, light coloured clothing and a hat will always be the strongest defence against the pests when out and about for the day.

As for at home or at the cottage, fostering a supportive habitat for deer fly predators is also an effective, natural way to keep the biting bugs at bay.

"Natural deer fly control comes in the form of frogs, toads, dragonflies, wasps, hornets and fly catching birds. All these species benefit from naturalized, vegetated waterfronts and nearby habitats," Whitteker explained. "Dragonflies like dark rocks that act like warming centres, they benefit from basking on heat retaining dark surfaces. Emergent shoreline plants combined with nearby shrubs provide daytime landing pads and nighttime cover for dragonflies."

While biting insects can be an annoyance, it is a part of the summers in the Haliburton area, with many cottagers and locals not diverting from outdoor activities.

"I thought I could escape them in the water but they still get ya," Albanese said, noting that it's par for the course in the summer.

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Jenn, Ryan, and their daughter Olivia Emmerson during the opening of Cottage Country Building Supplies ten years ago. /photos submitted

Jenn, Ryan, and their daughter Olivia now, ten years later, celebrating the decade in business in Carnarvon.

Cottage Country Building Supplies celebrates ten years

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

Kim and Ryan Emmerson were joined by Brent Devolin and Carol Moffatt at the grand opening, ten years ago. /FILE

In many ways, the presence of Cottage County Building Supplies in the heart of Carnarvon is a tangible tie to the history of logging in the Haliburton Highlands.

Its very existence is a celebration of the past.

But what makes it even more noteworthy, is the fact that it's a family affair.

The Carnarvon staple spent last weekend celebrating ten years in business at that location. "It was excellent," said Ryan Emmerson, the general manager of the store. "I'm not sure what my expectations were. I wasn't sure how it would go, but it exceeded all expectations."

There were pictures shared of the grand opening day, a decade ago now. In them, Ryan stands with his wife, Jenn, and their brand new baby daughter, Olivia. Fast forward to this past weekend, and Olivia is a spritely 10-year-old, beaming in the current shots.

It's no secret that Haliburton County was quite literally built around the lumber industry. An abundance of trees with lakes and rivers connecting each community allowed for timber to travel with ease along the waterways and towards the bustling train tracks.

In 1864, settlers identified the region as suitable for settlement based solely on access to the river, and lumber yards began to pepper the watery banks.

Once the railway made it to the village, the industry continued to boom and bustle, with saws and machinery ushered into the mills. Haliburton County was not built for agriculture, it was built for logging.

By 1945, business developer W.O. Bailey built a veneer mill in Haliburton. A few short years later, his daughter, Lois, married Wm. (Bill) Emmerson, and by 1957, the Emmerson Lumber legacy had started.

Ryan's father, Kim Emmerson, was born the same year. "Emmerson Lumber is the same age as my dad, and Cottage Country Building Supplies is the same age as my daughter," said Ryan with a chuckle.

Kim continues to run the Haliburton location, with Ryan working at the Carnarvon spot. While the Algonquin Highlands location has been around since the 1950s, it was brought back into the Emmerson family ten years ago. "It was a great investment for us to make," said Ryan. "It's been great to work with these communities."

The facility employs 20 staff year-round, with close to 60 between the two locations. While the business model is currently successful and thriving, Ryan says there isn't immediate interest in opening up a third location. "What we have is working well right now," he said. "There's no immediate need for more."

Apart from briefly leaving the community to attain a post-secondary education, Ryan was born and raised in Haliburton County. To him, running the family business is second nature. But he credits his dad, Kim, with getting him to where he is today. "He's a great ambassador in the industry," he said. "And he's been a tremendous teacher."

With three kids of his own now, Ryan chuckled when asked if they would continue the Emmerson legacy. "They're so young," he said. "But yes, they've already shown some interest."

During the celebration for the ten year anniversary in Carnarvon, the Emmerson family presented Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation with a cheque for $25,000. "We wanted to use the celebration as an opportunity to give back," said Ryan. "And they do such great things for the community."

> ***"I'm not sure what my expectations were. I wasn't sure how it would go, but it exceeded all expectations."***
>
> — Ryan Emmerson, General Manager of Cottage Country Building Supplies

A big birthday for Betty Douglas

EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

Betty Douglas sits in front of her many cards received for her 90th birthday this past month, as well as signed and framed wishes from a series of politicians and significant figures. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

It's not every day we get calls about someone turning 90.

It's often tips about fires or power outages. Injured deer or obituaries.

And of course, there's a time and place in our pages for those stories.

But a big birthday. That's truly something worth celebrating.

Especially for Betty Douglas.

Because Betty didn't call us to tell us she had turned 90. That wasn't the whole story. "I wanted to call because I want to put Haliburton on the map," she said.

That was her reason. In her very spirit and soul, Betty's heart beats for Haliburton.

Betty turned 90 on June 15. And while that warrants celebration, if you didn't know her exact age (which most of Ontario now does), you'd never guess it. On her 90th, she received signed letters from MP Jamie Schmale, MPP Laurie Scott, Prime Minister Mark Carney, the Governor General, and the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

And those were some of the big names. The framed photos sit alongside dozens of handwritten cards, given to her by her friends and family. All equal, and important, all valuable in her eyes.

That's how Betty sees the world; every single person has something to bring to this big, beautiful life. "I think I can learn something from everyone I meet," she said, while we sipped cool drinks together on a sweltering summer day. "And I like to learn something new every day."

We were joined for the afternoon by Tammy Milton, who started as Betty's PSW, but quickly became family, as the two bonded over inside stories, shared acquaintances, and their outlooks on life. "She is an incredibly positive person," said Tammy. "Sometimes, I struggle with depression and I have challenges with that, but she is my medicine. She can brighten up anyone's day."

Betty sits comfortably and at ease. She wears a blue sequined hat, and happily dives down her own memory lane, eager to showcase the chapters of her life that shaped her. She grew up in the outskirts of Toronto, and had one brother; a feature I shared with her, having one brother myself.

Every time she saw a shared connection, she exclaimed "Hallelujah," with true glee; like it's one step closer to really knowing her guests. She has an uncanny way of making everyone feel seen, feel heard, feel welcomed.

These traits came in handy when she ran Deer Lodge between the years of 1968 to 1974. When she started with the lodge, she didn't have any true experience in hotel management. "But I always said, when you see a door and you feel you can offer something, chase it, go for it." It was one of the happiest chapters of her life. The people she met, the memories she made. She recalled offering Christmas in July, with Santa Claus arriving at the docks via water plane, and parties and events that had the staff and visitors staying up into the wee hours of the morning.

But Betty wanted to bring more colour to the community, as well as a second income to Deer Lodge.

So she started Parrot's Nest; a flower shop which once stood on the corners of Highland Street and Maple Avenue in downtown Haliburton. To this day, daisies are her favourite flowers; large bouquets of the wildflowers are placed around her 90th birthday cards. She welcomed all into Parrot's Nest, and introduced the wonderful world of flowers to the community. If she had flowers leftover from a long day, she would spend her time calling around to the local churches, to offer arrangements for anyone interested. "You have to give back to the people who treat you well," she said.

Betty ended up returning to the city to attend Ryerson University, now called Toronto Metropolitan University, to earn her degree in hotel management. It didn't matter that she was a mature student, she knew she wanted to apply herself to learning more, to bettering her own trade.

During the years that followed, she worked in hotels around Canada, where she reconnected with long-time acquaintance Warren Douglas, and decided to make the move back to Haliburton. "That's truly where I was the happiest," she recalled. The two married in the Anglican Church in the heart of Haliburton, surrounded by friends and family.

While her husband passed away several years ago, Betty carries on his honour and legacy. She proudly displays photos and paintings of him and his accomplishments, and you can tell her love runs deep.

In cedar frames around her home, she points out pictures of her beloved sons, and her grandsons, who are living and working across Canada. She also lovingly pointed out her daughter-in-laws, whom it's clear she adores. Her one daughter-in-law works for CTV, and surprised Betty by sharing her birthday with viewers on the big day.

Each day, Betty gets up and eats blueberries, hemp hearts, and flaxseed. She wakes up at the same time, and goes to bed based on her own schedule. She credits aging with grace to her regimented lifestyle. "And don't watch the news," she said with a laugh. "The world is a little topsy turvy right now. We need good news stories."

And those stories should include Haliburton, says Betty. "This is the greatest place in the world," she said. "It's the people here. We're all part of the same family."

As the condensation creeps up our glasses, we sit amongst the daisies, and one hour turns into two, into three. Betty starts her stories by saying "long story," and dives down her memories; each one as clear and crisp as though it were yesterday. "I still have my memories," she said with pride.

And at the end of the day, it's all about Haliburton. About the place, the people, the summers, the stories. "There's been a lot of laughter over the years," she mused. "A lot of laughter, with a lot of people. We just have to remember to think positive. Always. Always be positive."

Wise words, from Betty Douglas, and the 90 years she's lived.

Because it's not every day we get calls about someone turning 90.

But a big birthday. That's truly something worth celebrating.

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Red tape

THERE ARE rules in place for a reason. I get it.

Safety, security, giving everyone an even playing field.

Navigating bureaucratic idiosyncrasies is not for the faint of heart. And trust me, I've been there. I've seen both sides of the coin. Between working for the township and then working alongside local businesses in an effort to help them succeed, there is a tennis match of debate on the courts at all times.

Minden Hills seems to be leading the race in red tape rules. Of course the other municipalities have their fair shares, but if I were keeping a tally of red ticker tape, Minden would be pulling far ahead of the pack.

That's not something to be proud of.

Editorial

Emily Stonehouse

And again, I understand why rules are in place. Safety. Security. Giving everyone an even playing field.

But we are losing businesses. Constantly. And it's my full-time job to ask them one simple question: why?

For a number of businesses, I've been around since the beginning. I've stepped over new flooring and pictures propped against walls, waiting to be hung, as the owners guide me around their visions. I love these interviews. The sparkle in their eyes, the hope for a new beginning.

And then, it's over. I place the follow-up call, after they take to social media, announcing the closure.

And I ask one simple question: why?

Like clockwork, the answers are consistent. Sometimes there are compounding factors. Family problems. Finances. Hate (this is a whole separate one, and warrants its own editorial at a later date …)

But the top reason? Red tape. Each and every time.

If these rules have been in place for so long, if they are meant to protect the people of the community, then why are they pushing so many people away? It's become an online joke. Minden can't keep their businesses open; the comments about red tape blocking the doors warranting laughing emojis on Facebook.

For as long as I have been a part of the Minden community, there has been a striking dichotomy between business owners and the township. A true us versus them ideology. Both sides in a tug of war, sticking to their guns, pulling harder on the ropes. And I've seen both sides of the coin.

But if a new business comes to town with a sparkle in their eyes and a hope for a new beginning, we should be doing absolutely everything we can to allow that business to thrive. And yes, that can be done with rules and regulations, but we should be putting support on the forefront.

So instead of getting wrapped and wrangled in a spiderweb of red tape, our businesses can fly high. We all benefit from a booming community.

What do LLMs do to our brains? The research has just begun

THE FIRST half of 2025 has seen a glut of headlines (and social media posts quoting those headlines) about how AI might be making us stupid. Citing research coming out of the likes of MIT, University of Pennsylvania, and Carnegie Mellon University, tech news articles have been sounding the alarm that using a generative AI tool such as ChatGPT will rot our brains. The problem with these articles (easily found on online news sites such as Forbes, 404media, Gizmodo, TechCrunch, and many other reputable news sources) is that in an effort to rise to the surface in our attention economy with a scary headline, they've missed some of the more interesting conclusions of the research they are reporting on.

There are three pieces of research that have caught the bulk of the attention over the last month or so. Let's look at what the research said (and didn't say).

Humans &

Techonology

Erin Kernohan-Berning

Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (Shiri Melumad and Jin Ho Yun): Over 4,000 participants were split over a series of experiments that had them research a topic and then provide advice on that topic - something general interest like planting a vegetable garden. Some participants were asked to use a Large Language Model (LLM) like ChatGPT,while others were asked to use a conventional web search. Participants who used a conventional web search tended to develop deeper knowledge than those who used the LLM, provided more persuasive advice, and felt more invested in the topic they had researched.

Microsoft and Carnegie Mellon University (Hao-Ping Lee): 319 knowledge workers were surveyed to determine how they used LLMs on the job, their confidence in the work produced by the LLM, and whether they felt they used critical thinking in their job. Those who reported having the most confidence in LLMs tended to report less critical thinking, and those who reported having the most confidence in themselves reported more critical thinking.

MIT (Nataliya Kosmyna, et al): 54 participants were hooked up to an electroencephalogram (EEG) and asked to write an essay while their brain activity was monitored. Participants could either use an LLM for assistance, conventional web search, or write without tools ("brain-only"). This brain-only group had the highest EEG activity, followed by the web search group, and then the lowest for the LLM group. The LLM group also had less recall of their work, and diminished feeling of ownership. In a subsequent session, the LLM group and brain-only group were swapped and asked to revisit their previous work. In this case, the brain-only group still demonstrated high EEG activity even while using an LLM, where the LLM group still demonstrated comparatively lower EEG activity even when switching to brain-only.

The most important thing to understand about all this research is that at no point did any study conclude that using AI, "makes us stupider." In fact, the lead author of the MIT study, Nataliya Kosmyna, has stressed in multiple interviews to avoid language like, "stupid," "brain rot," and "damage." Another thing to note is that all of these studies are preprint studies. They are early research, released without peer review with the purpose of generating further research. They also all have clearly stated limitations when you read through each study. The purpose of these studies isn't to be perfect or the final answer on whether using AI has a particular effect on us, but to create some work that other researchers can then try and replicate or improve upon. As the body of research grows, hopefully, so do the answers to the questions we have about how using AI may or may not affect us.

I think one of the interesting things the studies may indicate is the value in more manual ways of gathering and synthesizing information. In all three studies, participants took greater ownership over their work when it was them doing it, rather than their work being offloaded to a machine. In the MIT and University of Pennsylvania studies, they noted participants appeared to retain the information they learned better when relying on their own brains making sense of the topic they were researching, rather than generative AI giving them a statistically average accounting of that topic. The MIT study introduces another intriguing avenue of inquiry with their brain-only to LLM group – does using manual research methods followed by judiciously using an LLM help offset some of those less desired effects?

It's important when we're thinking critically about technology that we don't selectively choose facts that support a preconceived narrative. There are plenty of valid criticisms of generative AI that need to be grappled with and those need to be clearly identified, not muddied by hyperbole. By reducing this research to "AI makes us dumb," we miss out on some of the more useful conclusions the researchers worked hard to demonstrate.

points of view

Every dog has its day

Loon Tales

Steve Galea

YOU DON'T have to be a dog psychologist to understand it completely. It's no wonder my dog is traumatized.

I mean, I shower every day. My pup Rosie, on the other hand, showers once every five years – which is only worrisome because she still always smells better than me.

In any case, that five-year interval arrived last week after Rosie discovered a particularly smelly, toxic object to roll in. I'm still not sure what it was. All I can say is that it was putrid, black, and slimy – so basically, it was an eight-year-old boy's dream toy.

If it were up to me, I would have done the right thing and waited until the smell went away on its own. October isn't that far away.

But, for perhaps the same reason Jenn does not allow me to wait until October, she told me that I had to do something about it.

"You should give your dog a shower," were her exact words.

At times like this, Rosie is always my dog.

And so it was that I embarked upon something only slightly less difficult than holding onto a greased otter.

For those young men who have never had to do this, let me just say its not nearly as much fun as it sounds. The endeavour is fraught with challenges that, if done incorrectly, could conceivably accelerate the till-death-do-you-part clause.

First, you must get said dog to the shower without having it do what filthy dogs instinctively do at times like this – which is run through the entire house sitting on every piece of light-coloured furniture, carpet, and bedspread in sight.

Next, you're not allowed to use the upstairs shower – the one with the nice bathtub, shower curtains and shower hose that you could point towards the dog from outside of the shower. No sir, at times like these, you are relegated to the downstairs shower stall – the one with the fixed shower head and glass enclosure. This means you've got to get in the shower with your dog – unless you have trained it extensively on the use of shower controls.

The first part was not so difficult. I picked up Rosie, held her for dear life, and carried her to the downstairs washroom.

There was a lot of yelping and whimpering, of course, but only when I got near the light- coloured furniture. Otherwise, Jenn was calm, perhaps even amused.

The next difficulty was getting a very reluctant creature in the shower enclosure.

"You really want me to go in there too?" I asked.

"Unless you think Rosie can use the shower controls," Jenn said.

So, as Rosie and Jenn both averted their eyes, I stripped down to my birthday suit and got in the shower enclosure with my poor dog. Then I got the shower going.

A Norman Rockwell painting it was not.

For the record, Rosie loves being out in the rain. Yet, there's something about being in a confined space with a naked old man that takes the joy out of that. Go figure.

Nevertheless, I worked dog shampoo into her coat, then rinsed and repeated. Rosie shot me a look that was could have easily been accompanied by Sarah McLachlan singing in the background.

Meanwhile Jenn held a dog towel, looked away, and I swear, cheered audibly as the glass finally steamed.

After a while, Rosie smelled good again – and I smelled half as nice. But the damage had been done.

Since that day, Rosie sprints every time she passes the downstairs washroom door. Jenn does too.

They got five years to get over it…

pic *of the* past

Starting from rear of ambulance they are as follows: Curry (Pork) Whitaker, Gerry Wood, John Consack, Gary (Gerry?) Mcknight, Eldon Cowen (Cowan?), Wayne Wood and Cecil Winters. The attendants were standing in front of the ambulance when the base was at the municipal office. /FILE

Meal prep

Our road Down

Sharon Lynch

SHE HAD never seen an animal killed like that. It was a hot summer morning, the farm road dusty when she walked over. As a city youngster, the prospect of spending several hours 'helping' the farmer's wife was pretty darn exciting. Kate was to follow Annie's instructions, maybe even learn a little about what was done around the farm and stay for the big noon-time meal.

But when Kate saw Annie's arm spinning the chicken around and around by the neck, she was shocked. Annie calmly walked about the chicken yard, the bird briefly flapping its wings as she wrung its neck. Then with the head gone, the carcass continued to hop and bounce about the yard spraying blood and mayhem.

And that wasn't the worst of it. It was when Annie began preparing the bird for cooking. The smell as Annie pulled out the chicken's 'innards' was so foul as to be almost overpowering. Kate couldn't imagine eating the cooked bird later.

Also on the menu was veggies and Annie handed Kate a dented cooking pot for gathering and showed her where to pick. Rows of green beans waited under a blazing sun. As Kate moved between the plants, she felt the sun on her back and arms. Now she understood why Annie's hands and arms were always so tanned.

The woman spent a lot of time out in the vegetable garden picking produce to sell to the summer cottagers. Peas and beans to start and then later potatoes, beets and corn. And the sun seemed to be a constant companion that year, catching the dust that rose from the long drive in from the main road.

Annie had a large family of grown offspring. To Kate the men seemed enormous and a little scary. Taciturn, with their rough work clothes and weathered faces, they bore no resemblance to her father or brother.

Annie's kitchen was always a disaster scene. Cooking paraphernalia, vegetable peelings and the last meal's dishes crowded the counter and spilled over onto the table. But on this day, the mid-day meal was to take place in the dining room.

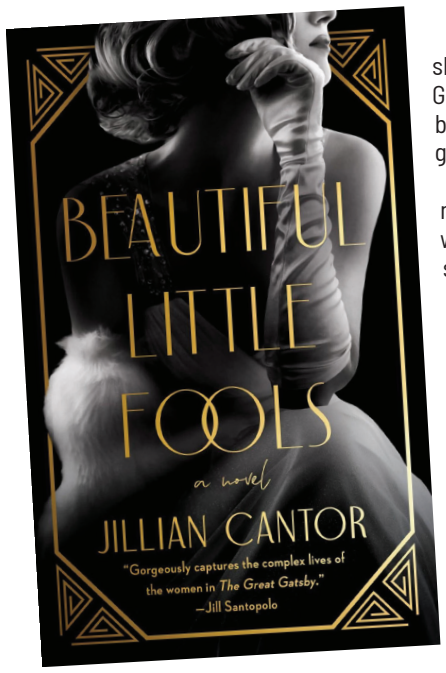
As though a silent bell had been sounded, the men all trooped in just as Kate and Annie began setting out the food. They washed up amazingly well before sitting down to a table groaning with the largest meal of the day. Chicken stew and dumplings, beans, potatoes and a large selection of pickles and preserves as well as half a loaf of bread awaited. The milk hadn't cooled much since taken from the cow and Kate took a small amount to be polite. And how, she wondered, had Annie also managed to make an apple pie along with everything else? But she had and it was a perfect ending to the substantial meal.

Later, scooting Kate out of the kitchen despite the mountain of dishes and leftovers, Annie sent her home with a piece of pie and lots to talk about.

Minden Memories

This front lawn court belonged to Judge Delamere's Cliff Cottage, which once stood along Bobcaygeon Road in Minden in late 1800s, across from today's Highland Remedy's Rx Pharmacy. The building no longer exists. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HCPL's Book of the Week


BEAUTIFUL LITTLE FOOLS
a novel
JILLIAN CANTOR
"Gorgeously captures the complex lives of the women in The Great Gatsby."
—Jill Santopolo

August 1922: Jay Gatsby is found shot dead in his pool. The police blame George Wilson, whose body lies nearby—but a diamond hairpin by the pool suggests a more complex truth.

Three women are drawn into the mystery: Daisy Buchanan, once in love with Gatsby; Jordan Baker, hiding a secret that shattered her career; and Catherine McCoy, a fierce suffragette desperate to protect her sister.

Their stories unfold in the years leading up to that fateful summer of 1922, when all three of their lives are on the brink of unraveling. Each woman is pulled deeper into Jay Gatsby's romantic obsession, with devastating consequences for all of them.

Beautiful Little Fools by Jillian Cantor is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

letters to the editor

What's the buzz?

To the Editor,

I saw my first Monarch butterfly of the season on Friday at the Haliburton Lake public beach, always a good sign.

However, we haven't seen one at the cottage yet, which is unusual. Our neighbours have also commented on the shortage of hummingbirds and dragonflies.

So, what's changed? Could it be related to the regular Mosquito Buzz treatments being sprayed on the trees and plants of our mutual (new) neighbour's property? The spray which was initially being sprayed onto my trees before I had to tell the sprayer that they were my trees?

The spray that the wind carries onto our property from an extremely loud gas-powered sprayer operated by a technician dressed in full protective equipment garb, including goggles, ear protection and face mask?

The spray that requires the homeowner and pets to remain inside for 30 minutes, as per the company's advertising ("Within 30 minutes you can be back outside, using your yard or pool with no danger to people or pets" Source: Dockside Publishing Inc., Spring Edition 2025) but without providing notice to the neighbours?

A couple of weeks ago, we had a visit from an OPP officer. She said she was investigating an alleged assault in the area. Apparently, a Mosquito Buzz technician had reported an altercation with a neighbour who had slapped him. While I certainly do not condone violence of any kind, I can understand how this product and the manner of its application can be very upsetting to homeowners trying to enjoy the peace, quiet and fresh air of a Haliburton summer.

Oh yes, we also have to endure these applications regularly throughout the "season", not just once or twice.

There is no shortage of horseflies and deerflies, however.

Dave Love,
Haliburton Lake

OPP requests public assistance in vandalism investigation

Members of the Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are seeking the public's assistance following a series of vandalism incidents in downtown Haliburton.

Since June 28, several vehicles in the downtown area have been spray painted in repeated acts of mischief. These incidents have occurred on multiple occasions, and investigators believe there may be witnesses or individuals with information that could assist in identifying those responsible.

Anyone with further information regarding this investigation is asked to contact the Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, you may call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or report online at www.ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

The OPP would like to thank members of the public for their continued support and cooperation in helping to keep their communities safe. Your vigilance and willingness to speak up play a vital role in maintaining public safety and preventing crime.

Submitted

A celebration of service

On June 27, Thomas Contracting celebrated employees who have reached a significant milestone of over 10 years with the company. Some employees have been with the company for over 30 years. /submitted

Canada Day in the County

Gooderham put on quite a fireworks show during their annual Canada Day festivities. The evening included food, live music, and an array of sky rockets that were enjoyed by people of all ages at the Gooderham Community Centre. /TIM YANO staff photographer

Walkabout Farms hosted a Canada Day Open House to welcome all to their establishment. Right, Nate brushes Gracie, a therapy horse at Walkabout Farms in Minden. This was the first time Nate has had the opportunity to meet a horse. /THOMAS SMITH staff

Ellie Yaworski was all smiles during Canada Day.

Canada Day in the County

Seven-year-old Rudy Gross takes a break during the fishing derby as part of The Township of Minden Hills annual Canada Day celebration. /ADAM FRISK staff

Steve Arsenault and his two kids, Logan and Chloe, pose with a fish during the fishing derby

Miles Morrison and Blaek Reynolds pose during the fishing derby.

Family and friends smile with their catches of the day.

Canadian pride was on full display at the Township of Minden Hills annual Canada Day celebration.

People take in the classic cars on display at the Canada Day celebration in Minden.

Canada Day in the County

Three-year-old Nevaeh Joyce is all smiles after Pockets the Facepainter finishes her work.

Volunteers get the rubber duck race underway as part of the Township of Minden Hills annual Canada Day celebration. This year's duck race was organized and facilitated by the Minden Agricultural Society. /ADAM FRISK staff

West Guilford once again showcased a brilliant display of fireworks on July 1. /submitted

Haliburton Rotary Music in the Park showcased Ragged Company for their Canada Day celebrations. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

The Haliburton Highlands Women's Golf League held their Canada Day celebration at Pinestone Resort on July 1,with decorated carts and everyone dressed in their red and white. /submitted

MVPs

Haliburton Grassroots Soccer is absolutely booming this year, with more than 250 energetic kids flooding the fields every Tuesday and Thursday evening throughout the summer. Over the course of nine action-packed weeks, soccer fever has completely taken over Haliburton Village. The HHSS grounds transform into a hive of activity as young players, passionate coaches, and supportive families gather to cheer, play, and soak in the joyful chaos of the game. From impressive footwork and sharp passing to last-minute goals and triumphant celebrations, the atmosphere is electric!

Despite a limited number of soccer fields in Haliburton, the enthusiasm and commitment of the community ensure that every blade of grass is put to good use. Kids pour in from every corner of the region, ready to give their all and make the most of the summer season. The opening week saw record turnout, with players of all ages and skill levels eager to kick off a summer filled with teamwork, sportsmanship, and sheer love of the beautiful game. Whether you're a player, coach, parent, or fan, Haliburton Grassroots Soccer is the place to be this summer.

Submitted by Andrew Brown

Abby Stancati and Abby Meller - Girls 10-11 - Navey Team

Charlie S - Girls 7-9 - Silver Team

Isaiah Young - Boys 10-13 - Media Platform Inc's Trail Blazers

Charlotte - Girls 4-6 - Teal Team

Harrison Shiner - Boys 7-9 - Purple Team

Olivia Emmerson - Girls 10-11 - White Team

Grassroots Soccer proudly sponsored by

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Andrew Brown

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To sponsor the Grassroots Soccer page please contact Andrew Brown at andrew@haliburtoncrew.com

MVPs

Markie - Girls 7-9 Royal Blue

Lawson Ramsay - Boys 7-9 - Royal Blue

Liam ward - Boys 10-13 - Haliburton Crew United

Kora Reid - Girls 11-13 - Green Team

Marshall Townsend - Boys 4-6 - Purple Team

Dominic - Boys 4-6 - White Team

Mea Iles - Girls 7-9 - Purple Team

Sully Brind - Boys 7-9 - White Team

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Haliburton Grassroots Athletics youth soccer program took to the pitch on July 3 with several teams kicking off the summer season. The all-inclusive youth league champions group play, sportsmanship and all the lessons that the beautiful game can teach our youth, both on and off the pitch. /ADAM FRISK staff

/submitted

/submitted

/submitted

Fish Hatchery trout sales a success

THOMAS SMITH

Journalist

This April, the Haliburton Highlands Outdoor Association (HHOA) sold eight inch rainbow trout for stocking private waterbodies. This was the first spring in which they have offered fish for sale.

Dan Smith, president of the HHOA says the venture was highly successful. Around 7,500 fish were sold and stocked in local, private bodies of water. Only people that have stocking licenses for private lakes may purchase fish.

"It was phenomenal," said Dan Smith. "Everybody seems to want rainbow trout and fish for their ponds."

All the sales of the fish go towards the activities of the HHOA.

"It takes about $70,000 to $80,000 to run our organization," said Smith. "We are not funded. A lot of people think the government just hands out money, but no, we do it all. So we have to fundraise."

In the past, the HHOA acquired a trailer to sell food at fall fairs. Smiths says that serving over the four day weekend would only raise around $400. Switching gears, the hatchery knew they should play to their strengths to raise money for their organization.

"We know how to raise fish," said Smith. "So this year, we figured we could sell them and raise good money to keep the lights on, buy fish food, pay our heating bill, and anything else that comes out."

In May, the HHOA purchased 10,000 rainbow trout eggs to raise at their hatchery. The fish that will grow will be sold in the fall and go directly back towards stocking fish in local lakes in Haliburton County.

"They love the dark," says Smith, looking over the tank of babies.

Smith says that the trays of thousands of rainbow trout hatchlings will reach selling size, about six to eight inches, within a year. Their automatic feeders are full of a fine powder that is periodically dumped into their tanks. Their mouths are so tiny that the granules of feed look like smoke drifting into the water.

Of the 10,000 eggs, Smith estimates that 7,000 will make it to fingerling size and be sold in the fall. In contrast, Smith estimates that one out of 1,000 eggs will reach adulthood in Halls Lake, the lake in which they harvest eggs from Haliburton gold trout.

"When we raise them here, out of 1,000 eggs, around 60 to 70 percent are successful," said Smith. "They don't have the predation and environmental factors that they have to face in the lakes."

The hatchery truly takes a village to keep running. Every day during the summer, a crew of four people are assigned to feed the fish, clean the tanks, check water readings, monitor water levels, and make sure that everything is running smoothly.

"We can never have too many volunteers," said Smith.

The water that is used in the hatchery comes from their well, with Barnum Creek running behind their building. Fresh water is brought into the tanks and bubblers add oxygen into the water. Each tank within the hatchery uses a separate water supply, ensuring that disease will not spread between their fish species.

The water that is brought into the fish tanks is not filtered or treated, unlike the water you would find in bigger cities. Their water is tested on a regular basis to make sure there are no contaminants.

As the tanks are scraped, the waste water runs through troughs in the floor, into a settling tank, and then into a wastewater holding pond. In the pond, the water settles and filters down through the ground until it returns into the aquifer underneath the ground.

"The chance of disease spreading to the public is zero per cent," assures Smith.

Having moved to Haliburton from Walkerton, Smith is all too familiar with E. Coli contamination in the water supply and is diligent to prevent contamination. The outbreak, caused by rainfall pushing manure into the water supply, led to several deaths in the area in the year 2000.

When the fish have outgrown the tanks in the hatchery, they are moved into the holding pond outside.

To avoid predation, volunteers feed the fish in the middle of the pond. With water that is 16 feet deep, it makes it difficult for predators to successfully catch fish.

While their biggest challenge is herons that predate the fish along the edge of the pond, they also have minks and otters that have taken fish from their pond.

Smith says that they have attempted to get a license to scare away herons from the pond but their efforts have not been successful with the Ministry of Natural Resources. They were advised to put up netting to prevent predators from entering the pond, but as a nonprofit, they have not pursued this option yet due to the high costs.

Smith says their holding pond can sustain up to 20,000 fish.

With the increase in bugs this year, Smith says that the trout are eating well. Even without them constantly feeding them, the fish would eat worms, bugs, and grubs that enter the pond, as well as stickleback minnows that naturally wind up into the pond.

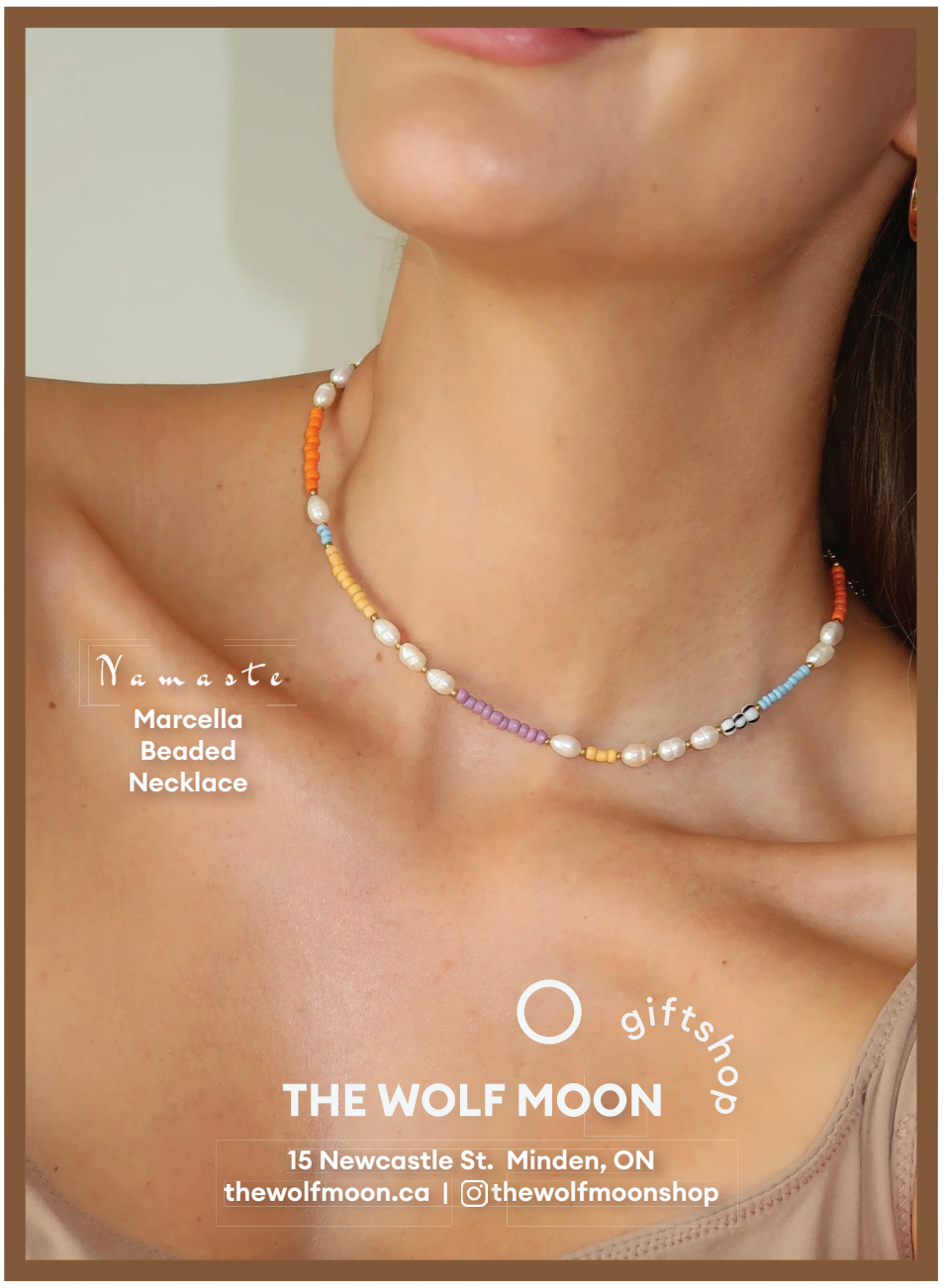
When customers purchase fish from the hatchery, if their pond is established, the trout will sustain themselves on bugs and grubs and not need commercial fish feed.

Throughout the summer, visitors are encouraged to come into the fish hatchery, ask questions, and learn about the HHOA's efforts towards stocking fish. Tours of the hatchery will be offered every Saturday in July and August, from nine to noon.

"Public awareness is our bread and butter," said Smith. "We preach conservation."

Smith encourages anglers to practice proper angling habits. Instead of keeping the largest fish, he advises people to record the size of the fish you caught, take a variety of photos, and you can get a taxidermist to create a high quality replica. If anyone catches a fish with a clipped fin, they ask that you report the catch to the ministry.

"Make sure you know the angling rules of your area," said Smith. "There is nothing worse than decimating the population of fish."



Want to Help Shape Public Health in Your Community?

The Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Health Unit (HKNPHU) is seeking candidates to fill public appointment positions on the Board of Health. If you live within the region, are at least 18 years old, and not a current HKNPHU employee, you may be eligible!

We are looking for diverse applicants with knowledge/skills in:

- Advocacy
- Health Systems Funding and Administration
- Indigenous Governance
- Legal
- Public and Population Health Science, Assessment, and Analysis

To learn more or to apply, visit
peterboroughpublichealth.ca/BOH
hkpr.on.ca/BOH

Deadline for applications is **Friday, July 25, 2025** at **12 p.m.**

Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit

Peterborough Public Health

Curry Motors expands family

EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

It's the dawn of a new era for the team at Curry Motors.

The well-known car dealership in Haliburton has been a staple to the community for 102 years. But Bob Bullock, the general manager of the facility, knows when it's time to grow.

"We've added a fourth store," said Bullock with pride. "We will be expanding to Peterborough."

The dealership is currently owned by the Harwood Automotive Group, and run by the Campbell family, who have deep ties to the Haliburton Highlands. But with business booming, Bullock and the team at Curry Motors have a need for more services and resources.

The group currently owns two other stores outside of Curry Motors, located in Cobourg and Parry Sound. Adding Peterborough's Jack McGee Chevrolet Buick GMC to the roster bumps their number up to four. None of the original store names will change, honouring the roots of the establishments.

"This will allow us to pull from four different stores," said Bullock. "And this is the first Cadillac dealership in the franchise."

Bullock shared that business has been exceptionally good. "Our sales have increased 300 per cent in ten years," he said. "We are a very high retention dealer."

Even with the ongoing tariff disputes with the United States, Bullock noted that they have been able to pivot and accommodate. "We're really taking this time to focus on service," he said. "The tariffs have impacted sales, but not services."

And the agency is now fully equipped for additional service. Many would notice that there has been ongoing construction at the Curry Motors site. They have opened up five more service bays, as well as an automatic internal use car wash, available for customers. The facility staffs 49 individuals, and with the ever-growing demand for service, Bullock has committed to growing with the needs of the community, with the final renovations wrapping up by early-fall.

And they hope to continue to give back to the community along the way. Bullock noted that adding additional stores beyond the boundaries of Haliburton County will not impact their involvement within the community. Curry Motors continues to support the local hospital, were instrumental in assisting with the development of the children's park in Dysart, and allocates funds to local schools and minor sports. "We have been very supported by our community," said Bullock. "And we will continue to offer better service and quality to our clients."

FORM 6
SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER
Municipal Act, 2001
Ontario Regulation 181/03, Municipal Tax Sale Rules
SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

THE CORPORATION OF THE UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF DYSART, DUDLEY, HARCOURT, GUILFORD, HARBURN, BRUTON, HAVELOCK, EYRE AND CLYDE

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on July 31, 2025, at the Dysart et al Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton Ontario.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Dysart et al Municipal Office, 135 Maple Avenue, Haliburton.

Submitted tenders will be opened live on YouTube using the link:
https://youtube.com/live/32oISuUcNEk?feature=share

Description of Lands:
1. Roll No. 46 24 010 000 40100 0000; PIN 39170-0005 (R); PART OF LOTS 13 AND 14, CONCESSION 5, NOW DESIGNATED AS PART 2 ON REFERENCE PLAN 19R10954, IN THE GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF DYSART, UNITED TOWNSHIPS OF DYSART, DUDLEY, HARCOURT, GUILFORD, HARBURN, BRUTON, HAVELOCK, EYRE AND CLYDE, COUNTY OF HALIBURTON (LAND REGISTRY OFFICE NO. 19); File No. 23-03
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is $23,000
Minimum tender amount: $18,181.85

2. Roll No. 46 24 010 000 56010 0000; 201 MOUNTAIN ST., HALIBURTON; PIN 39172-0106 (LT); PT LT 15 CON 6 DYSART PT 1 19R5232; DYSART ET AL; File No. 24-03
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is $34,500
Minimum tender amount: $7,325.90

3. Roll No. 46 24 030 000 40805 0000; PIN 39157-0107 (LT); PT LT 21 CON 4 HARCOURT AS IN H71718 S & E OF PT 4 19R1004; DYSART ET AL; File No. 24-14
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is $28,000
Minimum tender amount: $6,493.38

4. Roll No. 46 24 010 000 17115 0000; PIN 39169-0240 (LT); PT LT 27 CON 2 DYSART PT 2 19R3299; DYSART ET AL; File No. 24-31
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is $43,500
Minimum tender amount: $7,110.38

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/ money order payable to the municipality.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. The assessed value, according to the last returned assessment roll, may or may not be representative of the current market value of the property.

Pursuant to the Prohibition on the Purchase of Residential Property by Non-Canadians Act, S.C. 2022, c. 10, s. 235 (the "Act"), effective January 1, 2023, it is prohibited for a non-Canadian to purchase, directly or indirectly, any residential property, as those terms are defined in the legislation. Contraventions of the Act are punishable by a fine, and offending purchasers may be ordered to sell the residential property.

The municipality assumes no responsibility whatsoever for ensuring bidders/tenderers comply with the Act, and makes no representations regarding same. Prospective bidders/tenderers are solely responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act and are advised to seek legal advice before participating in this sale.

Transfers of properties that contain at least one and not more than six single family residences and are transferred to non-residents of Canada or foreign entities, are subject to the Province's Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST).

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax and HST.
The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.
For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender, visit:
www.OntarioTaxSales.ca
or if no internet access available, contact:

Crystal Bliedung Tax Collector
The Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart, Dudley,
Harcourt, Guilford, Harburn, Bruton, Havelock, Eyre and Clyde
P.O. Box 389
Haliburton ON K0M 1S0 (705) 457-1740 Ext.639
cbliedung@dysartetal.ca www.dysartetal.ca

Annual Art and Craft Festival set to take over Head Lake Park

ADAM FRISK

Journalist

The Haliburton Art and Craft Festival is set to take over Head Lake Park at the end of month, where dozens of artists and artisans from throughout Ontario gather for the annual three-day event.

The highly-celebrated, open-air art festival features 100 juried artists and artisans from across the region and other parts of Ontario and Quebec who specialize in ceramics, glass, woodworking, fashion, jewellery, visual arts and more.

Presented by Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre, the festival focuses on original art and craft, providing a curated experience that puts a spotlight on uniqueness and value of handmade creations.

"I've been so interested to watch some of the artists, some of the returning artists grow over the years," Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre curator Laurie Jones said

see ARTS page 17

NEW TO YOU
COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Shop 35 yard sales all in one spot!

Saturday, July 19, 2025
8 AM to 1 PM
Parking lot of A.J. LaRue Arena
728 Mountain Street, Haliburton

Shoppers: park on Highland Street, Maple Avenue, or a free municipal parking lot on Highland Street, York Street, Park Street

Visit our satellite locations on Saturday, July 19, 2025:

In-store sales at:
- 10 AM - 2 PM: Haliburton 4Cs Lily Ann Thrift Store, 33 York St, Haliburton
- 10 AM - 5 PM: Thrift Warehouse, 128 Mallard Road, Haliburton

Gently-used book sales at:
- 10 AM - 2 PM: Dysart Branch–Haliburton County Public Library, 78 Maple Avenue, Haliburton (hosted by Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library)
- 10 AM - 5 PM: Haliburton Highlands Museum, 66 Museum Rd, Haliburton

Municipality of Dysart et al
Download our free mobile app Haliburton County Waste Wizard
Download on the App Store GET IT ON Google Play
www.dysartetal.ca
705-457-1740

New owners commit to store legacy

from page 1

Canada Day weekend. While many gas stations and stores in the county sold out of worms for fishing, their staff was knowledgeable to advise getting extra stock before the holiday. Canada Day was one of their busiest yet.

"Everyone's been pretty great," said Kilbourne. "I didn't expect the community support that we have gotten."

Owning the store has sparked an interest with their family. Having never done archery before, they hope to try it out as a family.

"We are very interested in supporting local and Canadian companies," said Kilbourne.

Some Canadian fishing brands they stock include Haliburtonian baits, Lucky Strike, Lunkerhunt, and Black Fly Lures.

So far, the new owners do not plan on changing things up too much. With the store's wide range of hunting, fishing, and camping supplies, it has been a timely endeavour to scan and organize their inventory. One new addition that they now offer are physical plastic gift cards.

"We don't want to flip the Outdoors Plus experience upside down," said Zedic. "We still want customers to have the same service."

Before starting, the couple made sure to have their licenses to sell firearms, offer hunting and fishing licenses, sell bait, and everything else needed to take control of the store, without interrupting the store's operations.

"The turkey season was a big hit," said Kilbourne proudly. "These are the types of things that we want to continue to do."

Kristy Kilbourne and Chandler Zedic are looking forward to making new memories as the owners of Outdoors Plus in Haliburton. /THOMAS SMITH staff

Currently, the couple is looking into collaborations in the Haliburton community.

The Junior Bass Tournament is running again this year. Youth 15 years old and younger can participate. With a small entry fee, kids are provided a ruler with which they can measure fish they caught. Photos of the fish on the rulers must be submitted. Participants can only register for the tournament in-person at the store.

The couple says that they already have 40 kids registered to participate in the tournament, with the bass season opening on Friday, June 30. The tournament ends on Aug. 22. Every participant will receive a prize.

"We definitely want to have more of a presence on social media as well," said Kilbourne.

"We just want to try and connect with the community," said Zidec. "Norm and Karen have done a great job with that and they have been here a long time. We are not starting over, but building on what they have done."

The couple says that they want their customers to feel like people and not a sales quote. Every fishing and hunting story is valued and they love seeing the passion and excitement on people's faces when they come into the store.

"Everyone who comes into the store is happy," said Kilbourne. "They are coming in here to do their hobby."

Kilbourne has dedicated that Outdoors Plus will also provide a local experience, unlike big box stores. If a customer is searching for something specific that they do not have in stock, they can order in for you.

"We are a month in now. It takes a lot of time and energy," said Zidec. "For us, it has been a learning curve but it has been a lot of fun. What we have learned the last month is that we made the right choice in putting our name in for this business."

"We are very happy with the way things are going so far. Every day we are learning something new and meeting new people," said Zedic. "If that keeps up, I think this is going to be a very fulfilling opportunity for us to connect with the community here and continue the legacy that Norm and Karen have built."

Arts Fest supports local economy

from page 16

in a July 2 telephone interview. "This year we are featuring one of the festival artists in an exhibition inside the gallery as well.

"Garrett Gilbart, who is also involved in the Haliburton sculpture exhibition, is showcasing his Arts and Labour project, so that's pretty fun."

Nestled in the heart of the village, the festival takes place in a lakeside setting, with a beach, children's play area, a dog park, a library and art gallery that occupies a former train station, all within the grounds. The festival plays a significant role in the Haliburton community and is a pivotal platform for local artists and artisans to showcase and sell their work directly to the public.

The historic festival, which dates back to the 1960s, is also a boon for the local economy. With thousands of cottages, locals and road-trippers descending on the village for three days, the event contributes to the local tourism economy.

"Watching the careers develop over the years has been a great pleasure for me," Jones said. "I'm always happy to support all of these artists and without all of them then this wouldn't happen indefinitely."

Jones explained the artists begin to arrive in Haliburton on Thursday and begin the process of setting up shop in the park into the evening and early Friday morning.

"Let's just pray for no bad weather," Jones chuckled. "Friday morning is always a busy time for the artists getting ready and making sure everything is set up for the noon opening."

The event will also feature buskers, a hands-on community arts tent, outdoor performance art among other entertainment. The event runs Friday July 25 from noon to 5 p.m. Then on Saturday July 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. before wrapping up on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission to the festival is $5 and is good for re-admission all weekend long.

Municipality of Dysart et al
Tenders

The Municipality of Dysart et al invites vendors to submit bids for any or all tenders:

- **2025-PW-13 Supply of One (1) Sand Storage Facility**

(Closing Tuesday, July 15th, 1:00pm)

The Municipality seeks bids from qualified vendors for the construction of one (1) sand storage facility complete with poured concrete walls at its Public Works Yard capable of storing 15,000 tonnes of sand

Register at no cost, view all bid opportunities, and submit your bid online at:
dysartetal.bidsandtenders.ca
Printed or emailed submissions are not accepted

Municipality of Dysart et al
705-457-1740 www.dysartetal.ca

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2 Balsam St. Cardiff

Summer Swim Program

Featuring:

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- Open Swims

Visit our website: highlandseast.ca
or call our office at 705-448-2981

Register for swimming lessons or purchase your Pool Pass today!

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Notice
(Applicant – Stephenson)

In the matter of the *Municipal Act* and in the matter of a proposed By-Law of the Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East to close, stop-up and convey certain portions of Part of the Shore Road Allowance along the shore of **Little Glamour Lake**, more particularly hereinafter described.

Notice Is Hereby Given, pursuant to the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001*, and the Municipal Procedures, that the Township Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass at a virtual meeting on **Tuesday, July 15, 2025**, at 9:30 a.m., a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the following described lands:

Pt. Shore Road Allowance in front of Lot 34, Concession 13, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Parts 1 and 2 on Plan 19R-11112 made by **P. A. Miller Surveying Ltd.**, completed February 12, 2025. *(Part 1 being the flooded portion to be retained by the Municipality of Highlands East).*

The Plan of Survey is available to you for inspection by you making an appointment at the Municipality of Highlands East offices, Wilberforce, Ontario.

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus. If you wish to attend the virtual meeting, please call or e-mail the Municipal Clerk prior to the day of the public meeting so you can be provided with a link or phone number for the meeting. If you do not have the capability to attend a virtual meeting, please provide written comments to the Municipal Clerk prior to the public meeting.

Any person or his or her counsel, solicitor or agent who attends the virtual meeting shall be afforded an opportunity to make representations in respect of the within matter.

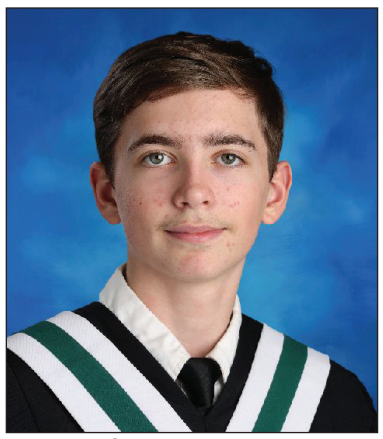
And Take Further Notice that if the public wishes to participate regarding the purchase of Part of the Shore Road Allowance please contact the Municipal Clerk.

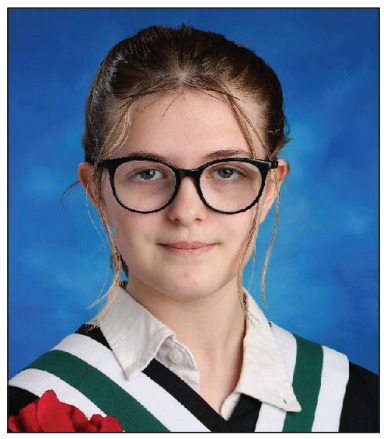
Dated at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 1st day of July, 2025.

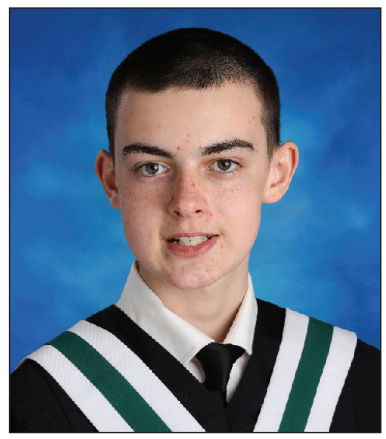
Robyn Rogers, Municipal Clerk
Box 295, 2249 Loop Road,
WILBERFORCE, ON K0L 3C0
rrogers@highlandseast.ca

2025 Wilberforce Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates

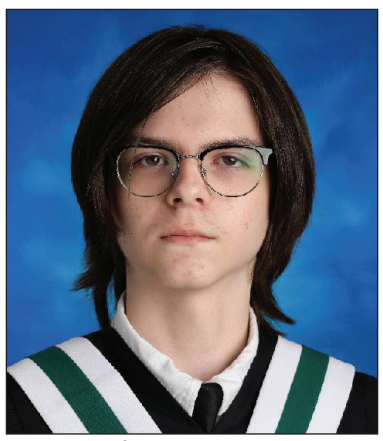
Ben Sarginson

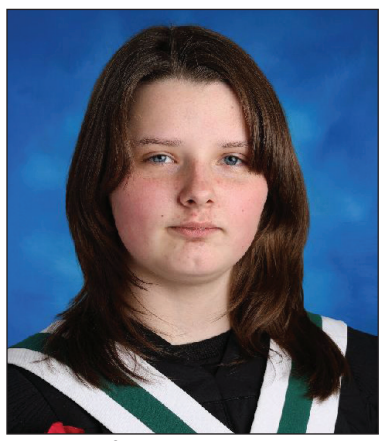

Christopher Fillier

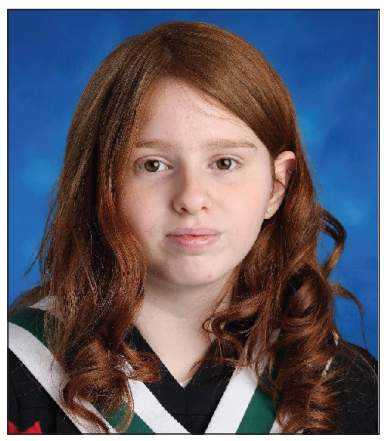

Faith Baily McLeod

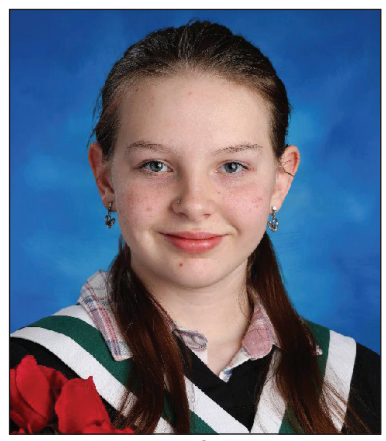

Jackson Amos

Kaitylyn Lafontaine


Samuel Hamill


Shiva MacIsaac


Tara Tucker


Tay Cox

Camera shy

Wyatt Russett

Joel Carisse

Valedictorian Speech

Hello everyone, our names are Shiva MacIsaac and Chris Fillier.

Thank you family and friends for being here to celebrate the graduation of the Grade 8s. And the privilege of being able to speak for this year's graduates. We would like to start by thanking our teachers Mr. Findeis, Ms. Higgins, Ms. Manol, Mrs. Goodwin, Mr. Joseph, our EA's, Ms. Mckay and Ms.Nottage, and our principals, Mr. Wood and Mrs. Davies, who made our time here at Wilberforce Elementary School so memorable.

To the kind-hearted and dedicated volunteers, you've shown a great example to all of us and we want you to know just how much we appreciate all of you.

A special thanks to our amazing pickleball and curling coaches as well as Deborah, who helped with breakfast club.

A thank you to the OPP who took the time of day to come and play soccer with us as well.

We will always remember our school trips to Muskoka, when the guys built a huge pillow fort in our cabin and stayed up late. And when we all played gagaball or when we played cops and robbers with the adults, even when Mr. Findeis broke a table by sitting on it, it was hilarious.

I would also like to thank Ms. Manol for organizing all of our D&D campaigns and allowing us to have so much fun during it. As well as Mr.Findeis for pitching in for being a Dungeon Master so that Ms. Manol could make more engaging campaigns for us.

Now, we would like to share some advice for our fellow Grade 8s along with the Grade 4 to 7s.

Everybody is so concerned about their own insecurities that they won't even notice yours, so don't worry about people caring about yours.

Hate has four letters, but so does love.

Enemies has seven letters, buts so does friends.

Lying has five letters, but so does truth.

Hurt has four letters, but so does heal.

Cry has three letters, but so does joy.

Negativity has 10 letters, but so positivity

You always have a choice, so pick the better side of things.

It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult task which, more than anything else, will affect a successful outcome.

And that is why we believe we made it so far in our lives, because we took on these tasks and we hope that our fellow graduates will take this advice into high school as well.

Finally to end our speech, we would like to take the time to thank our other graduates.

I would personally like to thank Jackson Amos, for being my good friend for years. I would also like to thank Ben for keeping things fun and unpredictable, Wyatt for re-joining us! And finally Joel for being a good builder during the junk drawer.

And I would like to thank Tara for always being able to listen and for being so understanding, Tay for keeping us on task and working hard and Faith for always making sure everyone felt loved and valued in class, Kaitlynn for her creative and inspirational attitude, And Sam, for his calm demeanour and funny comments.

It's now time we head onto bigger and better things. I think I speak for all of us when I say we greatly enjoyed our time together at Wilberforce Elementary School but we are ready for bigger challenges. Just remember: It's okay to not know, but it's not okay to not try! Congratulations Graduates!

Class of 2025
The Best & The Brightest
Graduation Wishes

Darlene Reil
Cell: 705.854.2055
Darlene@century21granite.com
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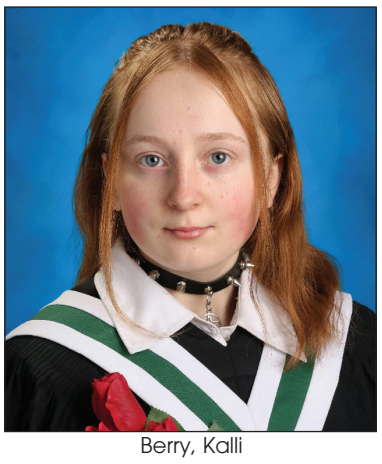
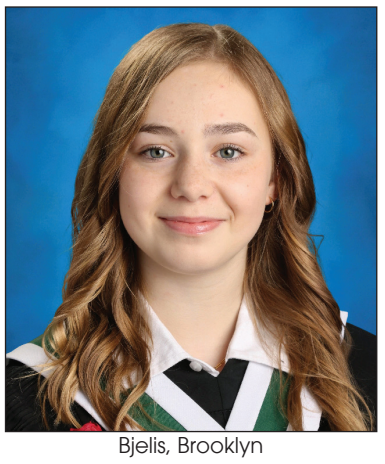
Granite Realty Group Inc.
BROKERAGE

2025 J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates


Berry, Kalli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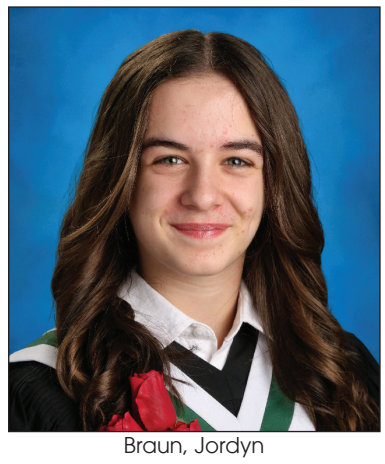
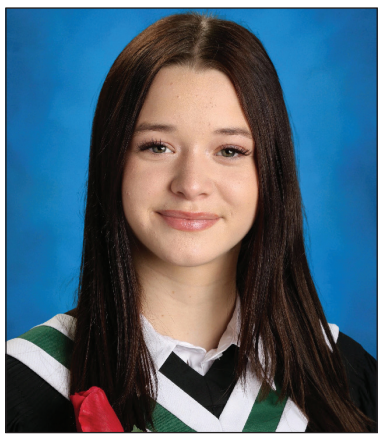
Bramham, Julia


Braun, Jordyn

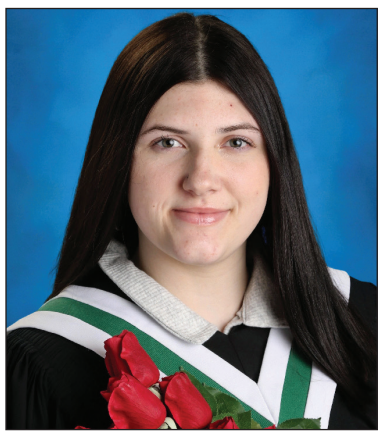
Burden, Tyler

Burke, Brady


Burtch, Hadley

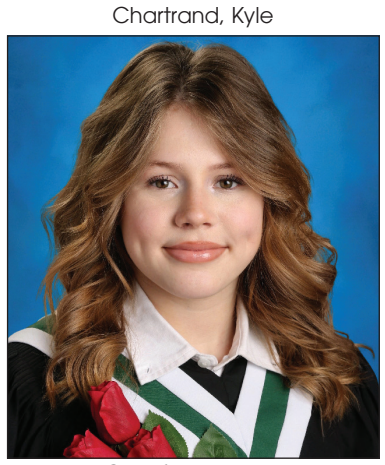
Chartrand, Kyle

Cochrane, Leeland


Cooney, Zoe

Cowen, Ben

Craftchick, Oakley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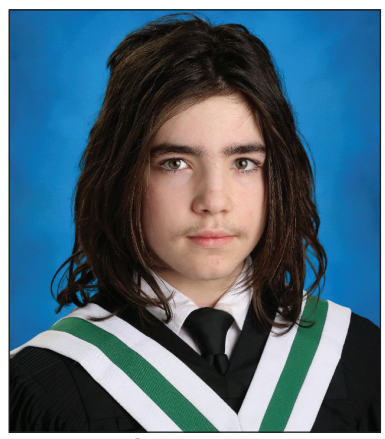
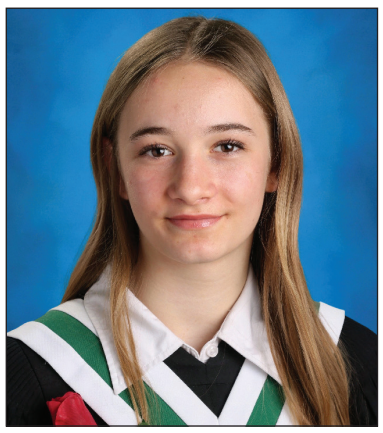

Currie, Jake

Dacey, Keira

Davidson, Austin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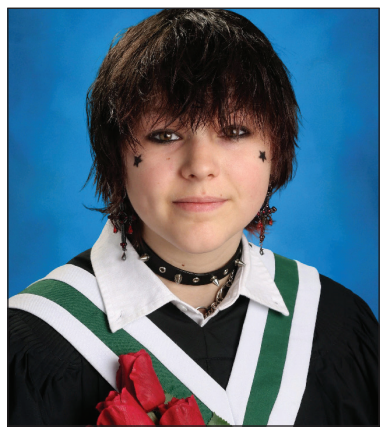
Demuth, Ayla

Dobbins, Hawksley

Dovell, Katelyn

castle building centres

Congratulations to all the Graduating Students!

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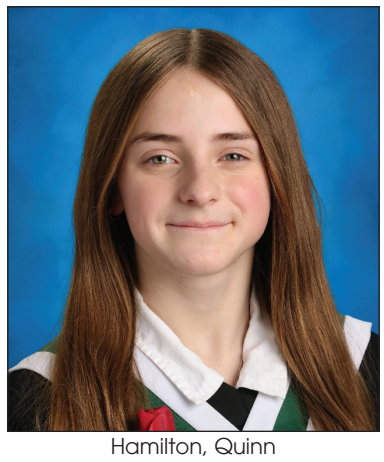
2025 J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates

English, Aaron

Evans-Fockler, Duncan

Gallant, William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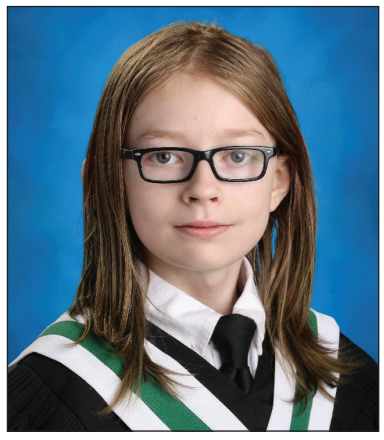
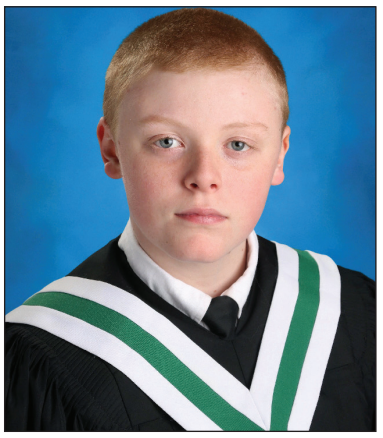

Hie Jake

Holden, Parker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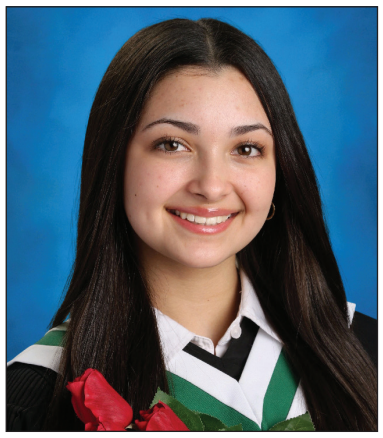
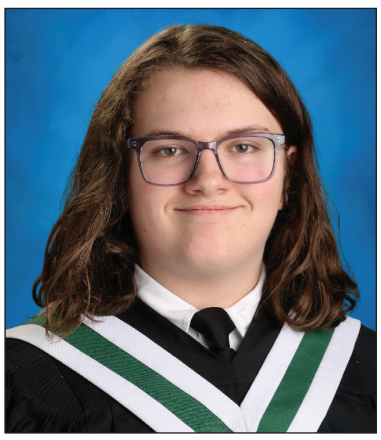

Jansz, Chelsea

Joseph, Levi

Kay, Dan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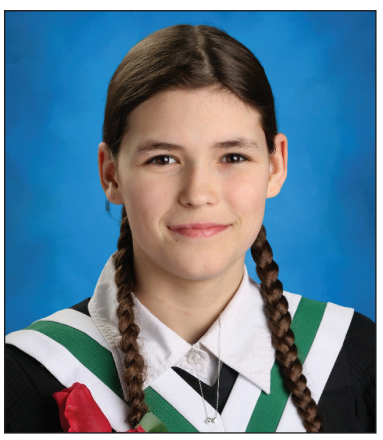
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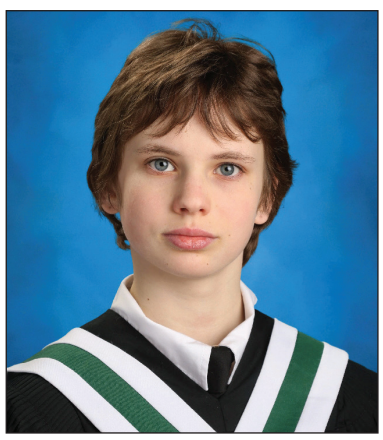
Lavalle, Kolt

Leblanc, Dawn

Lee, Alexander

LePage, Amy

Lloyd, Benton

Loney, Gabriel

Lynch, Claire

Manning, Jacob

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WEST GUILFORD
Shopping Centre

Congratulations to the
Class of 2025

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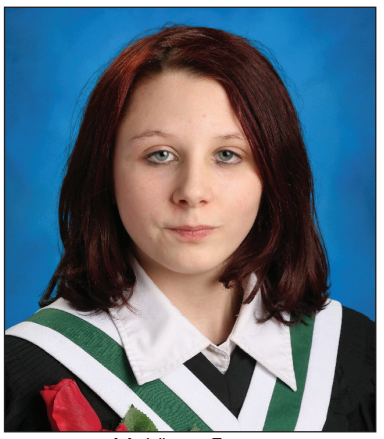
705-754-2162

2025 J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates

Mathura, Cheyenne


McVicar, Tessa

Miscio, Greyson

Mitchell, Rhys

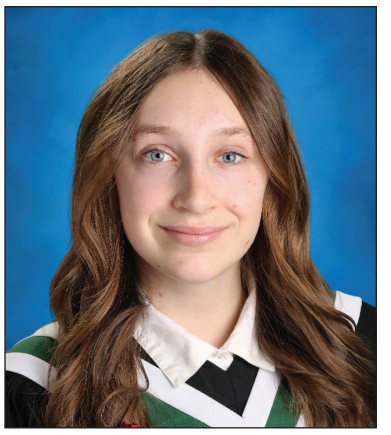
Neilson, Henry

Neville, Ty

Nielsen, Joshua

O'Malley, Elias

Papatheodorou, Nathan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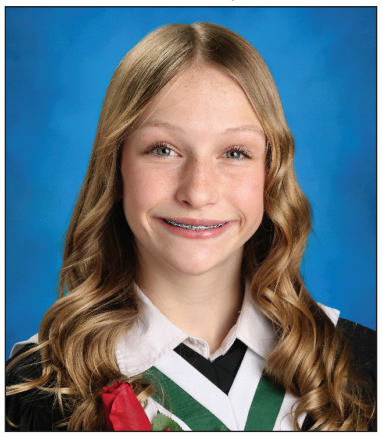
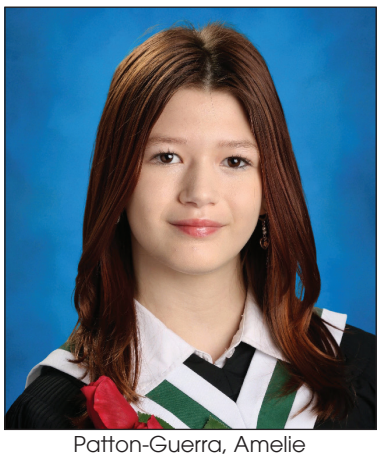
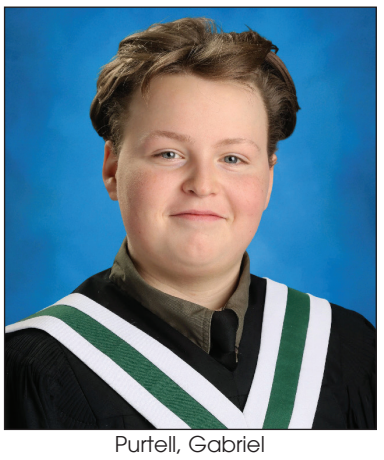
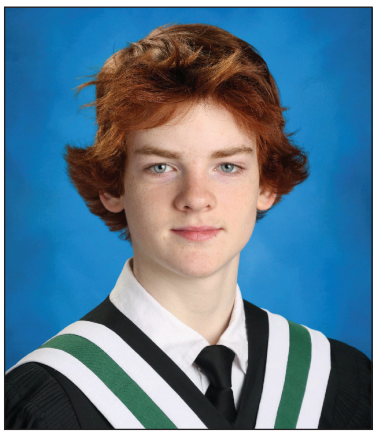

Park, Kendall


Patton-Guerra, Amelie


Purtell, Gabriel

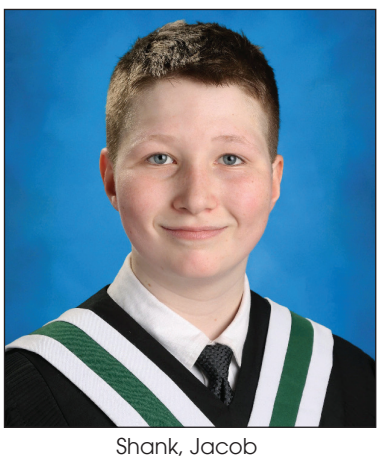
Robichaud, Jackson

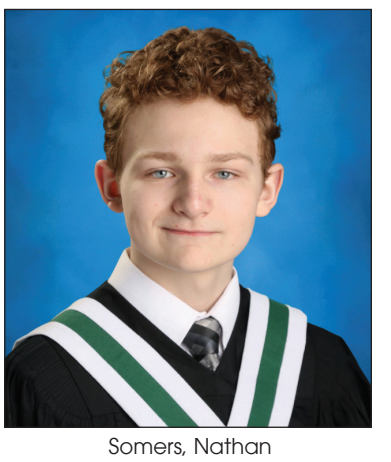

Rowe, Levi

Rowe, Travis

Rupnow, Max

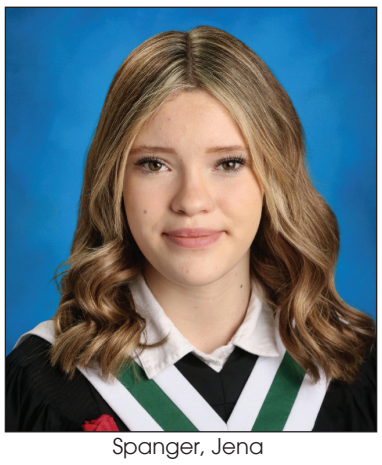
Scheffee, Ava

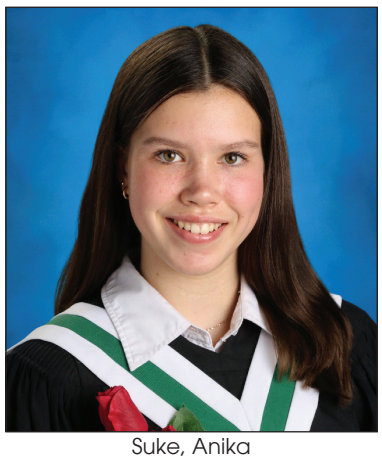

Shank, Jacob


Somers, Nathan

Dream On
Class of 2025
The future is yours, graduates!
We wish you health, happiness and success today and always.
Haliburton FOODLAND
Fresh food. Friendly neighbours.

2025 J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates


Spanger, Jena

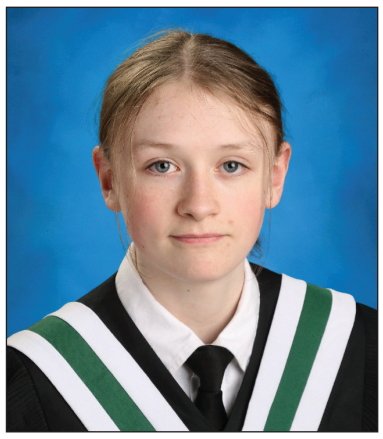

Suke, Anika

Trautman-Coyle, Jackson

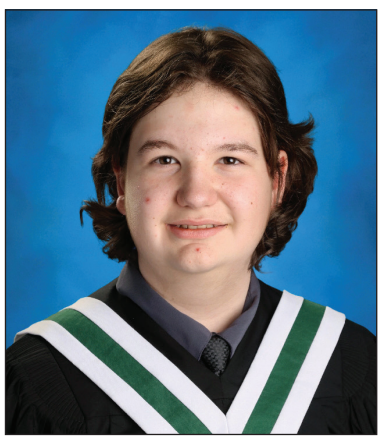
Upton, Skye

Vale, Lucas

VanderWier, Evan


VK, Ollie

Walker, Meghan


Wilson, Nicholas

Wiso, Ghadir

Wuilleme, Ethan

Valedictorian Speech

Good evening, friends and family. My name is Travis Rowe and I am this year's Valedictorian. Thank you to everyone who is joining us tonight and thank you to my peers for trusting me to represent our graduating class as Valedictorian.

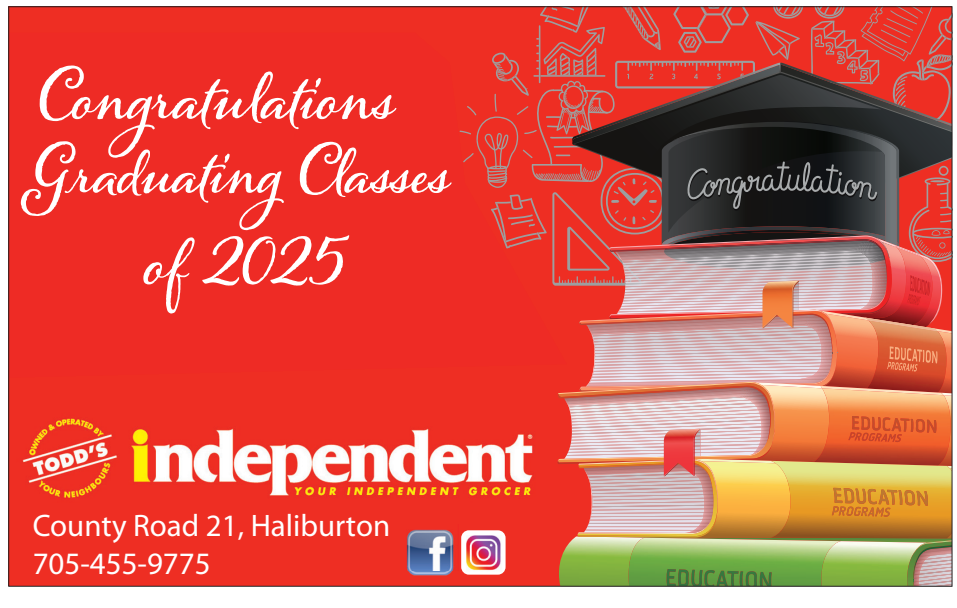
As a Grade 8 student it is easy to focus on and look forward to our high school years. We will have more freedom, different courses and more opportunities inside and outside of school. But, graduation gives us the time to reflect on some of the memories we have made up to this point and on the people who got us here.

First, I would like to thank Mr. Dawson, my homeroom teacher, you have made this past year great. You've brought joy to the classroom in multiple different ways. You're funny, truly inspiring, and overall a great teacher. So thank you for all of the good times and joy you have spread, not just in my classroom, but in every classroom you teach. Mr. Mardus, it has been great having you teach gym and health this year. You have high expectations for your students and always have a kind, inspirational word for them. I have high hopes for all of the students who will be taught by you in the future. Mr. Scott, the Grade 8 science teacher, we know us Grade 8s often gave you a hard time, but you always managed to make Science fun. Ms. Phillips, you certainly had your hands full with your Grade 8s this year, but you always showed up for your students, helping them have a successful year. Thank you to you and Mme Bruce for organizing all of the Grade 8 trips and sporting events. Mme Bruce, Although you haven't taught me, I've heard lots of great things about you, like how you're helpful with your students' work, A very kind teacher, and how you made their year fun. So thank you for the hard work you've done, and kindness you have shown. Mr. Smolen, you arrived at JDH for our Grade 8 year. You quickly became some of our students' favourite teacher. You are supportive and clearly want the best for everyone. Ms. Henriques, even though we only had you for a short period of time, you sure held up Mr. Scott's expectations and made June fun. There are many other teachers that have had a significant impact on us all, thank you for being supportive and inspiring. And for all of the other staff at JDH, like the principals, EAs and custodians, thank you for everything you do every day to support us.

When we first started kindergarten, it was like we were dropped into a whole new world. We had things pretty easy though, drawing, playing, starting friendships, and enjoying the ignorance of childhood. Then came Grade 3. A year full of unforgettable and uncertain moments. From a completely traditional start to the year, where we were expecting to transition to Grade 4 at JDH, to being sent home in March due to COVID, and not seeing our friends for almost six months. While doing online schooling, we missed key moments like Link Day. Missing Link Day gave us next to no experience walking into Grade 4. Having to deal with a whole new yard, teachers, and classrooms was tough. Luckily we caught on quickly. Unfortunately, once we settled, we were sent home again and were forced to take part in online learning from April to June. These moments forced us to be flexible, but also resilient when faced with new challenges. We had to work hard to learn new skills, while also learning the regular curriculum. Thankfully after Grade 4, things went back to normal. This is when we started to really experience what middle school is really like. We got to participate in more sports and extracurricular teams, go on many fun trips and enjoy more opportunities with our friends.

Being in Grade 8 has made us all the "top dog" of the school. We have been able to lead activities like Link Day, been leaders as a part of teams, and support initiatives like Student Council. Grade 8 has made us prepared for our new normal at the high school. We are going into Grade 9, and we might be scared, but we are also very excited. We will have even more opportunities presented to us, and will have the opportunity to explore potential different career opportunities. It will be important that we stay on top of our learning, but also enjoy our high school years, getting involved in different sports, clubs, trips and opportunities. JDH has prepared us to be kind, and successful in whatever we choose to do.

In conclusion, we all began this journey from all different walks of life, each with our unique dreams and aspirations. With ten school years behind us, we have many more great years ahead of us. All of the work we've done to get here has finally paid off. So let's carry all of the good times and memories with us to achieve our next goal, high school. Thank you to our families for their ongoing support, teachers for everything they have done to get us here, and to my peers for trusting me to take on this role. Congratulations, we did it!



2025 Archie Stouffer Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates

L Allder

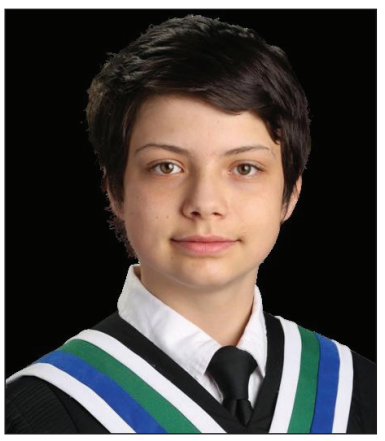
O. Archer

S. Baynton

E. Bliedung

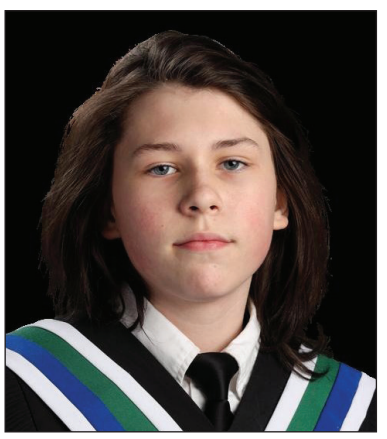
C. Brooks

K. Bull


D.Cooney

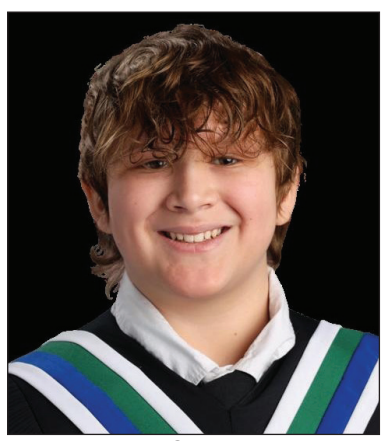
J. Cox

M. Davis


B. Everitt

L. Frith

K. Gillooly


K. Graves

H. Hamilton

B. Harrison

J. Hessels

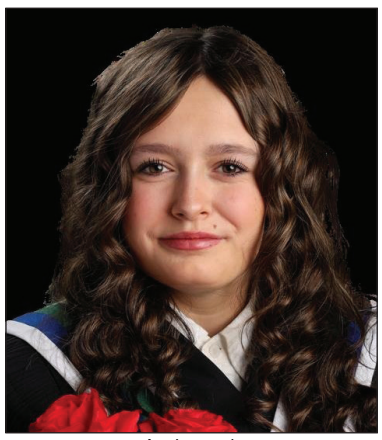
E. Hudson

R. Hudson

T. Hughes

B. Hutchinson

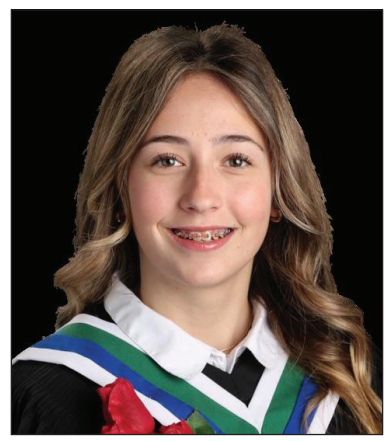
2025 Archie Stouffer Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates


A. Joseph

A. Kegel

P. Kelly

E. Kernohan


A. Kulas

J, Lawrance

D. Madigan

R. Mann

J. Mansi

H. McConnell

H. Meyer

A. Mills

C. Neave

K. Newell

S. Owen

C. Simms

C. Sketchley

L. Spencer

G. Sprunt

C. Stevens

2025 Archie Stouffer Elementary School Gr. 8 Graduates

J. Thompson

L. Upton

D. Weerdenburg

C. Wilson

C. Wilson

N. Wrightman

Valedictorian - Hudson Meyer

First off, I would like to welcome all of the people here today, whether you're here as a family member, a friend, a teacher, or a fellow student. I can speak on everybody's behalf when I say we are proud to have you here. As some of you may know my name is Hudson Meyer and I am grateful to represent Archie Stouffer as this year's valedictorian.

During my time at this school I have made many friends, memories, achievements, and even some mistakes. Although I have had some ups and downs, none of my achievements would have been possible if not for my supportive grandparents and I guess to make them feel better I'll also say my sisters. I also would really like to thank Mrs.Patterson for teaching me this year and preparing me for high school, Mr. Vaughn for taking me to the E.R in Orillia when I cut my hand open and also for always being very positive, Mr. Kozlowski for being kind to me even when I was not on my best behaviour, and Mrs. Pilgrim who has always been really cool to me even since I first came to this school. I can't forget to thank Mrs. Kernohan and Mr. Gervais who have never once made me feel unwelcome, and all of the students that have shown me kindness, empathy, respect, trust, and have competed with me which motivated me to try harder throughout the years.

Anyways, let's change the subject. It seems like just yesterday we were all those nervous little kids roaming the halls wondering who will be our next best friend. I mean when some of us first came here we couldn't even tie our shoes but we have learned so much since then.

Most of us have gone from ages four to fourteen. That's ten years with most of the same people and the exact same building. Sadly I can't say I've been here for all of those years but I've been here long enough to say that this is a great place with many wonderful people.

Speaking of the wonderful people, this year I have gotten to know a lot of the Grade 8s within this school and can I just say they are all great people that I do believe will succeed in high school. Even though I don't know all of my fellow graduates to the best of my ability I can say for sure that our school is full of many fantastic people that have created such a great place to be.

Unfortunately we have to leave this great place and head off to high school but just remember that even though you won't be in the same school you will always be able to look back on the memories, plus there's a quote out there that says "the best is yet to come," so don't be worried for high school be excited for all of the new opportunities. While we're slightly on the topic of quotes there is another I would like to acknowledge, this quote was by Muhammed Ali and it says, "if they can make penicillin out of mouldy bread, they can sure make something out of you," and this quote is targeted to anybody who is nervous about where they'll end up. Earlier I had mentioned that I didn't know all of my fellow graduates to the best of my ability but with the coming years of high school I hope to get to know a little more about all of you.

Before I go I have two more things I'd like to say: the first is Wildcats, let's make our school proud! The second thing is: I previously mentioned all of the people I would like to thank but I left one person out and that person is my mother who had always been there for me when I needed her most and she will be forever in my heart.

Thank you!

CONGRATS, GRADS!

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the Grade
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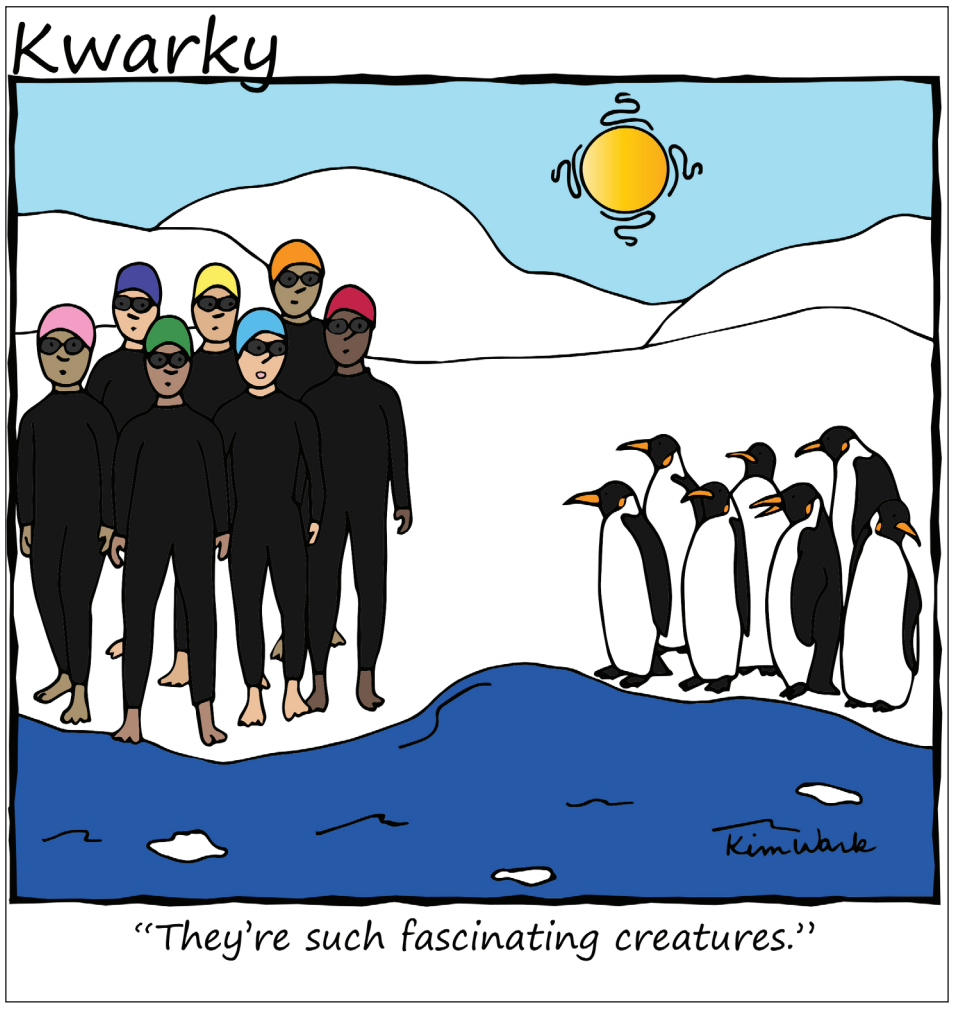
www.haliburtonlumber.com
AIR MILES.

Above, JDH principal Dave Waito acknowledged this year's graduates, noting that they had a special place in his heart, from starting at the school the same year together. He wished them the best of luck on their future endeavours. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

ASES hosted a 'Hollywood' themed graduation ceremony, honouring their made Grade 8 grads, and celebrating them as they head to the high school next year. All high school graduates will be featured in next week's papers. /submitted



Brought to you by

SUDOKU

	7	4				2		
	1		9		5			
	4		5					3
8							7	6
			1		3			
3		7	6					
	8		2				5	
9		2					8	4

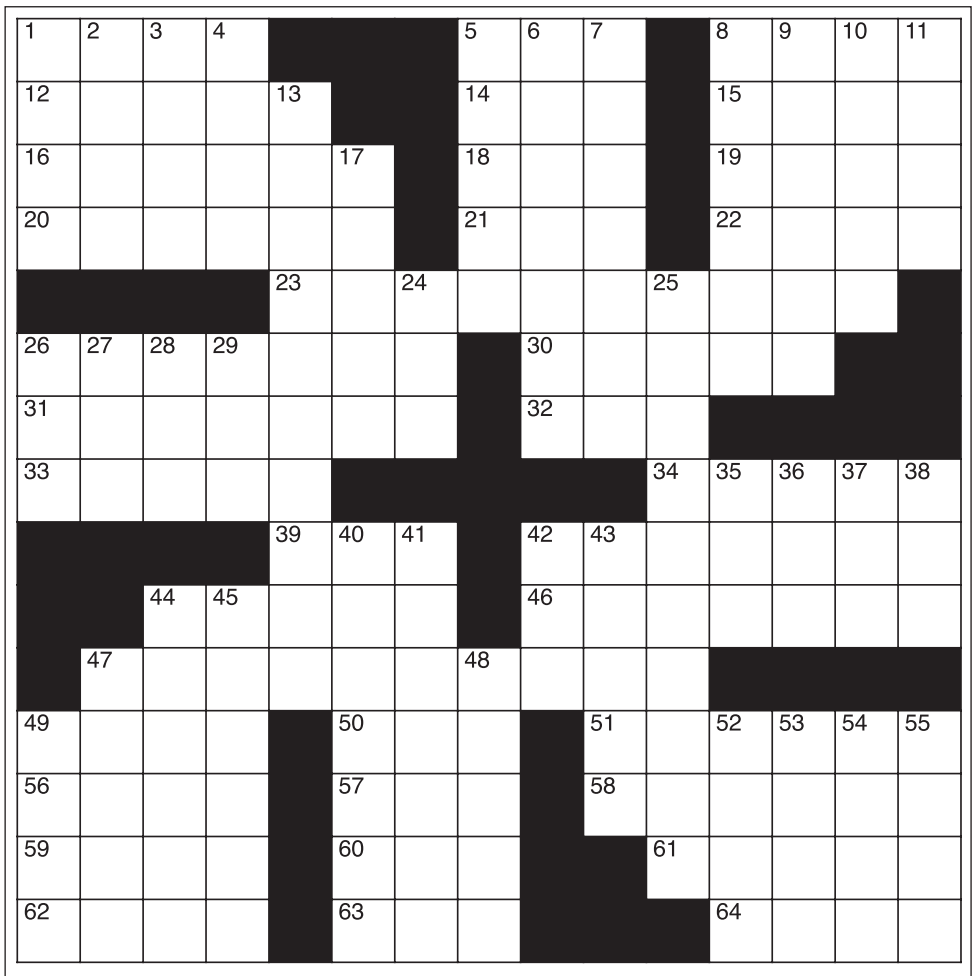
Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 29



CLUES ACROSS
1. 50 percent
5. Records electric currents
8. Charlize Theron flick "__ Flux"
12. More frosty
14. Disfigure
15. Sky color
16. A thoroughfare in a town or city
18. Actress de Armas
19. Spend time in a relaxed way
20. California peak
21. Lodging option
22. Small amount of a thing
23. Expresses sorrow
26. Keeps an ear warm
30. Babies (Spanish)
31. A conceited and self-centered person
32. No seats available
33. Pouches
34. Hip joints
39. A place to bathe
42. Evading
44. Minute, one-celled unit
46. Losing one's hair
47. A country in W Africa
49. One point north of northeast
50. Pointed end of a pen
51. Extreme
56. Norse personification of old age
57. Doctors' group
58. Member of U.S. Navy
59. Mens' fashion accessories
60. A way to allow
61. Gloomy
62. Grads wear one
63. Between south and southeast
64. Jaguarundi cat

CLUES DOWN
1. Snakes do it
2. Hormone
3. The standard monetary unit of Turkey
4. Fixed charges
5. Electronic communication
6. Artilleries
7. "Strangers on a Train" actor Farley
8. Burning
9. Makes ecstatically happy
10. Greek liqueurs
11. Tropical Old World tree
13. Someone who takes vengeance
17. Style of cuisine
24. Select
25. Immunized against disease
26. Old world, new
27. Honorable title (Turkish)
28. Court case: __ v. Wade
29. Supervises interstate commerce
35. Not divisible by two
36. Twelve
37. Commentator Coulter
38. Encourage
40. Plumbing fixtures
41. Early
42. One point north of due east
43. King of Thebes
44. Short-tailed martens
45. Impose a penalty on
47. Consort of Poseidon
48. A way to lessen
49. Brooklyn hoops team
52. Female of a horse
53. Do as one is told
54. A way to prepare meat
55. Unit of measurement

Answers on page 29

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COMING EVENTS

SIRCH community services

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday, July 22, 2025
5:30 pm
SIRCH will be hosting its AGM at the SIRCH Bistro & Bakery, 49 Maple Avenue, Haliburton. The meeting agenda will include the Reports from Staff, Auditor's Report and Election of Directors. Members of the public are invited to attend. Please contact us for more information.
Phone: 705-457-1742
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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Staanworth Non-Profit Housing Corporation
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We are currently seeking a reliable and hard-working Cleaning/Maintenance Assistant with good work ethics and able to work independently to join our team. This position is responsible for the cleanliness, safety and minor maintenance of our buildings and properties. This is currently a part-time position, being 22.5 hours per week.

This position is responsible for the cleanliness and maintenance of Staanworth's facilities.

Primary duties include maintaining cleanliness of all building entrances, hallways, common rooms, washrooms, laundry and garbage rooms.
Secondary duties include minor repairs to apartments, painting, assistance to the maintenance supervisor with move-out procedures, garbage transport to landfills and yard maintenance. Job description is available on request.

Successful applicants will have experience in cleaning, and a sound knowledge of employment safety regulations. WHMIS certification is desired. A driver's license and abstract plus a vulnerable police check will be required.

This position includes employer paid benefits (medical, dental, vision and life insurance).
The wage will commence at $18 - $20 per hour, commensurate with experience.
Start date; July 21, 2025.

Please submit your resume no later than 4:30 p.m. - July 11, 2025, to:
Staanworth Non-Profit Housing, 44 Parkside Street, Minden, KOM 2KO
or email to office@staanworth.ca

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OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of
Mildred "Millie" Hill

Passed away peacefully with family by her side at the Haliburton Hospital on Friday, June 20, 2025 at the age of 96.

Beloved wife of the late Keith Hill (2014). Dear mother of Steven (Wendy Porter), Jon (Susan), Kathy Sweeney (Paul Dillon), predeceased by her sons Andrew and Daniel. Loving Gramma of Amanda (Darren), Mike (Carla), Gwen (Rueben) and Andrew. Loving Great Gramma of Cooper, Charlotte, Nathan, and Makenna. Fondly remembered by Riley Dillon (Tirelo), Lone and Eana, and Liam Dillon (Liz). Predeceased by her brothers Harold Parker and Al Parker. Lovingly remembered by Jean Neville, and cherished neighbours Adiya and Keetyn Mills, and also by her many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Friends are invited to a Memorial Gathering to Celebrate Mildred's Life at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home

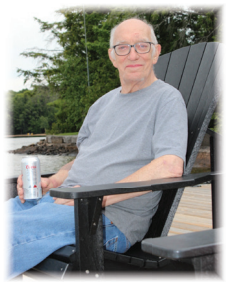
Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden K0M 2K0 on Saturday, July 26th , 2025 from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm.

A Private Family Graveside Service will be held at the Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) or to the Help A Village Effort (H.A.V.E.) would be appreciated by the family.

Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd. & Pre-Planning Centre

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



In Loving Memory of
William "Bill" Burden

1945 – 2025
It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Bill Burden who died peacefully at Extendicare, Haliburton on Friday, June 27, 2025 at the age of 79.

A long-time resident of West Guilford, Bill was the proud owner and heart of the West Guilford Store for over 40 years. His passion for the store, his staff, and the loyal community he served was unwavering, and his warm presence behind the counter will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Bill was predeceased by his beloved wife, Edna, with whom he shared many cherished years. He leaves behind his loving children, Chad (Steph) and Cori (Jason), and was a devoted grandfather to Chase, Ellie (Evan), and Piper, who brought him endless pride and joy.

A die-hard Toronto Maple Leafs fan, Bill held onto hope for "next season" with a cold Coors Light in hand. He was known for his loyalty, his sense of humor, and his deep commitment to family, friends, and community. His legacy will live on in the stories shared across the store counter, in the laughter of his grandchildren, and in the heart of West Guilford. He will be remembered for his quiet strengthen and generosity.

A Memorial Visitation will be held at the West Guilford Community Centre, 1061 Kennisis Lake Rd., West Guilford, Ontario K0M 2S0 on Wednesday, July 16, 2025 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of tributes at 2:00 pm. Light snacks and refreshments to follow. Cremation has taken place.

In lieu of flowers and memorial donations, the family asks that you raise a glass, share a story, or simply be kind to your neighbour — just as Bill would have done.

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One step closer

The start of construction at the two hospital sites in Minden and Haliburton moved a great deal closer Thursday.

Just in time for the second annual meeting of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Board, the Ministry of Health announced approval had been granted for the work to be put to tender. Up to that point, ministry officials were pouring over the architect's drawings to ensure they met with MoH criteria. The local health board had been assured that the plans were all but approved, but without the ministry's consent it was impossible to release them to the general contractors who will lead the construction process.

That approval finally came Thursday and added an upbeat note to the annual general meeting held at the Legion Hall in Haliburton. "As of this afternoon, we have been authorized to go to tender for our capital projects," Hugh Nichol, chair of the board announced at the start of the meeting. He was obviously pleased with the news, as were fellow board members and the public.

Nichol pointed out that it was likely more than coincidence that the announcement from the MoH occurred in time for the annual general meeting. He noted that MPP Chris Hodgson had always been supportive of the health services projects in the Highlands and

(more on page 3)

An evening of celebration

It was a proud and fun-filled night for students, parents and teachers Tuesday evening as Archie Stouffer Elementary School recognized the outstanding students of the year. Above teacher Kathy Adams clowns it up with top Geography students in the three grade 8 classes, from the left, Jennifer Moore, Cheryl Ripley and and Aaron Ketrner. At the left Jennifer Carpenter receives the Stuart Baker Memorial Award from teacher Eric Thompson while at the Right, David Bloomfield is presented with the Haliburton County Women Teachers Association Award for leadership. See the second section for a complete report on the graduation.

Price increase for *The Times*

The retail price of *The Times* is changing.

Publisher Jack Brezina has announced the price of the newspaper as of the July 6 edition will move to 93¢. The price increase is the first for the newspaper in seven years and reflects the increased costs which have occurred during that time period.

The price of 93¢ was chosen because, with the addition of the 7¢ GST the cost of the newspaper will be an even $1. This should make it easier for the purchaser and the retailer handling the sale the of the newspaper. A portion of the increase will include a higher return for retailers who sell *The Times*.

The subscription price of *The Times* remains unchanged at $30 (plus $2.10 GST), or about 60 cents per copy, delivered to your address anywhere in the immediate area or across Canada.

We hope our readers will appreciate the need for this change. We look forward to your continued support of our publications.

The pleasure of your company is requested.....

It's a community picnic, a day of good, old-fashioned fun and it's a birthday party to which everyone is invited.

After 131 years this country has a lot to celebrate and the party planned for Wednesday should reflect that.

Those thoughts come to mind in examining the line-up of activities planned for the riverside venue in Minden as the nation celebrates its birthday. The Canada Day Committee has once again pulled together an interesting and varied selection of events and activities that should keep just about everyone entertained from dawn to dusk.

Most of the daytime events will again take place on South Water Street along the Gull River. The portion of the street from the Beer Store to the bridge will be closed to traffic to provide an open area for people to mingle, watch the entertainment or take it easy in the cool shade of the river bank trees.

Something new at this year's event is the addition of antique boats to the excellent line-up of classic cars which have always been a highlight of the day. Also in the river during the afternoon, expert kayakers from the Minden Wild Water Preserve and the Wild Rock Boat Werks will provide instruction right downtown for anyone interested in trying the sport. "It's an opportunity see and experience the fun and excitement of flatwater kayaking," one of the organiz-

(more on page 2)

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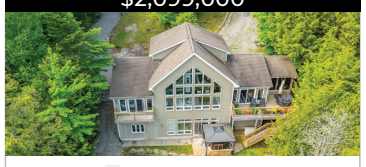
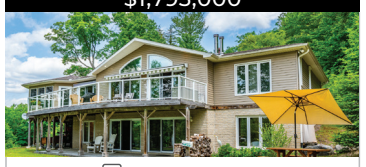
KENNISIS LAKE
$2,099,000



5 X BED · 3 X BATH · MLS# X12110017

GROWLER LAKE
$1,795,000



5 X BED · 4 X BATH · MLS# X12236651

SOYERS LAKE
$1,695,00

3 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12219995

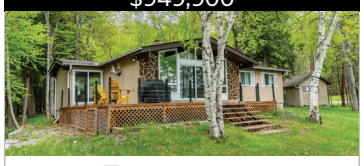
EAGLE LAKE
$999,900

3 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12029422

KENNISIS LAKE
$975,000
NEW PRICE

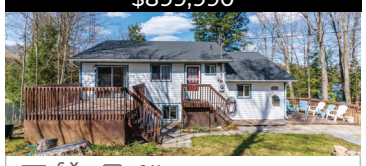
3 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12169805

CANNING LAKE
$949,900



3 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# 12199617

LONG LAKE
$899,990



6 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12146750

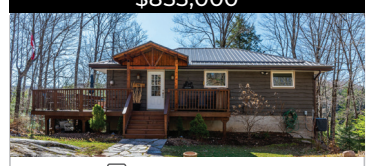
HORSESHOE LAKE (ROAD BTWN)
$895,000

3 X BED · 3 X BATH · MLS# X12189937

KENNISIS LAKE
$875,000
NEW PRICE

2 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12176356

NEGAUNEE LAKE
$855,000



3 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12120338

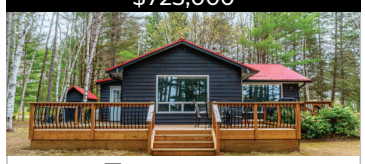
BEECH LAKE
$824,900
OPEN HOUSE JULY 12, 1-3PM

5 X BED · 4 X BATH · MLS# X12250094

TROOPER LAKE
$729,000

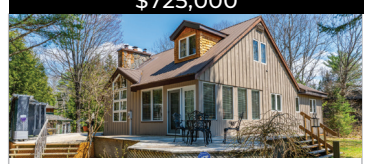
3 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12236448

WILBERMERE LAKE
$725,000



3 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12138474

KENNISIS RIVER
$725,000



3 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12137708

EAGLE LAKE AREA
$659,900

2 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12095585

SALERNO LAKE
$659,000
OPEN HOUSE JULY 12, 12-2PM

3 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12253284

KOSHLONG LAKE RD
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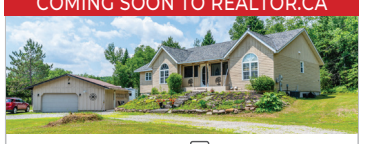
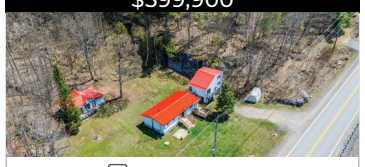


3 X BED · 2 X BATH

KUSHOG LAKE (RD BETWEEN)
$599,900

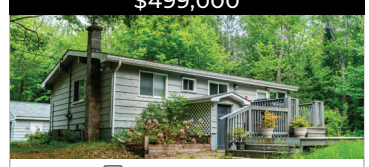


4 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12140930

BOSHKUNG LAKE ROAD
$529,000
NEW LISTING

3 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12247198

WILBERFORCE
$499,000



3 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12093164

GELERT ROAD
$390,000
COMING SOON TO REALTOR.CA

3 X BED · 1 X BATH

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KUSHOG LAKE
$1,050,000

4 X BED · 3 X BATH · MLS# X12227417

CRANBERRY LAKE
$599,000

2 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12101365

HALIBURTON LAKE
$890,000

3 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X12074153

LAKE LORRAINE
$529,900

3 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12210389

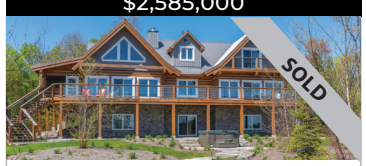
KOSHLONG LAKE
$899,000

3 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12166694

HALIBURTON
$699,000

3 X BED · 2 X BATH · MLS# X 12182080

REDSTONE LAKE
$2,585,000



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3 X BED · 1 X BATH · MLS# X12219556

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